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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2996.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1885.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

**ROYAL LITERARY FUND.**—The NINETEEN-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER of the Corporation will take place in WILLIS'S ROOMS on WEDNESDAY, May 6, at Half-past Six for Seven precisely, the EARL of ROSEBURY in the Chair. The stewards will be announced in future Advertisements. The Secretary, A. LLEWELYN ROBERTS, Sec. pro tem. 7, Adelphi-terrace, W.C.

**BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.**—The NINTH MEETING of the SESSION will be held on WEDNESDAY NEXT, April 1, at 32, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, W. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m.

Antiquities will be exhibited and the following Paper read:—  
"Notes on Ancient Egyptian Pottery," by Prof. A. W. DE GRAY BIRCH, F.S.A.; "Honorary E. P. LOFTUS BROCK, F.S.A." Secretaries.

**SHORTHAND SOCIETY, WEDNESDAY, April 1,** at 55, Chancery-lane, 8 o'clock precisely. Paper, "Shorthand spelling and Shorthand as a Handwriting," by Mr. Alfred James. Cards of admission on application to H. H. PESTELL, Hon. Sec. 64, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, E.C.

**INSTITUTE of ACTUARIES.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the PRELIMINARY, INTERMEDIATE, and FINAL EXAMINATIONS of the Associates of the Institute will be held on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, the 24th and 25th day of April, at the Rooms of the Institute, 9, Adelphi-terrace, Strand. Students who enter the PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION will be required to attend—

From 10 to 1 on FRIDAY, April 24th, and

From 2 to 5 on SATURDAY, April 25th.

Students who enter for the INTERMEDIATE or FINAL EXAMINATIONS will be required to attend—

From 2 to 5 on FRIDAY, April 24th, and

From 1 to 6 on SATURDAY, April 25th.

Candidates must give fourteen days' notice of their intention to present themselves for examination, and must pay a fee of One Guinea.

All Candidates must have paid their Subscriptions to the Institute prior to March 31st.

A syllabus of the Examinations may be obtained at the Rooms of the Institute.

By order of the Council.

H. W. MANLY, J. Hon.

A. J. FINALISON, J Secs.

9, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, March 24th, 1885.

**FREDERICK DENISON MAURICE.**

Several of the late Mr. Maurice's Old Pupils are anxious to place a PORTRAIT of him in the LIBRARY at QUEEN'S COLLEGE, Harley-street, to complete his portrait gallery in the College.

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Mr. Lowes-Dickinson has kindly undertaken to paint the Portrait.

**THE LADIES' LEE MONUMENT ASSOCIATION** having in view the erection of a Monument and Statue to General Robert E. Lee, in the City of Richmond, Virginia, respectfully invite DOMESTIC DESIGNS for the same, to be sent to the care of the undersigned, at Cooper's Gallery of Art, Washington City, or before the 1st day of January, 1886.

The Design shall consist of—

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3. Specifications describing fully the features of the Design, materials to be used, the mode of executing and erecting the Monument, and its maintenance, together with an approximate estimate of the cost of the several parts.

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Address Miss SARAH NICHOLAS RANDOLPH, President of the Ladies' Lee Monument Association, Richmond, Virginia, U.S. of America.

**THE HIBBERT LECTURE, 1885.—A COURSE**

of SIX LECTURES on "The Origin and Growth of Religion, as Illustrated by the Influence of Pauline Christianity" will be delivered in English by Professor PFLEIDERER, of the University of Berlin, at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on the following days, viz.—MONDAY, 13th, WEDNESDAY, 15th, MONDAY, 20th, WEDNESDAY, 22nd, MONDAY, 27th, and WEDNESDAY, 29th April, at 5 p.m. Admission to the Course of Lectures will be by ticket, without payment. Price, 10s. The tickets will be sold at the Office of the Secretary, 14, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, W.C., not later than April 4th, and as soon as possible after that date tickets will be issued to as many persons as the Hall will accommodate.

The Courses of Lectures will also be delivered by Professor PFLEIDERER at Oxford, in the New Examination Schools, at 4.30 p.m., on each of the following days, viz.:—TUESDAY, 14th, FRIDAY, 17th, TUESDAY, 21st, FRIDAY, 24th, and TUESDAY, 28th April, and FRIDAY, 1st May. Admission to the Oxford Course will be free, without ticket.

PERCY LAWFORD, Secretary to the Hibbert Trustees.

**NOTICE to ARTISTS.**—GLADWELL'S NEW GALLERY, 14, Gracechurch-street, will be OPENED in A FEW DAYS, as soon as the alterations are completed. The First Exhibition of Paintings and Drawings will be opened in May. Receiving days, April 20 and 21.—Forms on application to the MANAGER.

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**NOTICE.—FRIDAY, APRIL 3rd, being GOOD FRIDAY.**—The ATHENÆUM will be published on THURSDAY NEXT, at TWO o'clock.—ADVERTISEMENTS should be at the Office not later than TEN o'clock on WEDNESDAY MORNING.

**FRANCE.—THE ATHENÆUM.**—Subscriptions received for France.—Twelve Months, £1s.; Six Months, 9s.—payable in advance to J. G. FOTHERINGHAM, Bookseller—Paris, 8, Rue des Capucines; Cannes, 59, Rue d'Arèbes.

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## LITERATURE

*At the Gate of the Convent; and other Poems.*  
By Alfred Austin. (Macmillan & Co.)

FROM beginning to end, whatever the theme, whatever the mood and key, the poetic impulse of this book is Spring. Mr. Austin tells us, in a "Prelude" which is itself a spring paean, that his susceptibility to the influence he feels so vividly is due to his having been born in spring. He seems also to be under the hallucination that it is an exceptional idiosyncrasy and marks him apart from other men. But what may be called the vernal passion is common to many minds whose dawning experiences were of winter or of the dog-days—to many whose dawning experiences, being among street sights and sounds, were but slightly affected by what season it might happen to be. The spring yearning to flee from the town to some place where the earth's renewal has begun and the buds can be seen turning to leaf possesses plenty of people born all over the almanac. Winter is the cause—winter and a subtle sympathy, almost physical as well as mental, which makes life keener in us when life is breaking into birth throughout nature. A reader will not need to have had Mr. Austin's advantages of birthtime and birthplace to enter with complete fellow-feeling into the meaning of this description:—

Hence too it is, from wintry tomb  
When earth revives, and when  
A quickening comes to Nature's womb,  
That I am born again.  
I feel no more the snow of years;  
Sap mounts, and pulses bound;  
My eyes are filled with happy tears,  
My ears with happy sound.

And we believe that the pleasure with which we have read and re-read many times over portions of this book has owed something of a refreshing nature to the rich talk of spring fulfilled having come just when the quickening time after winter has begun, and with it the natural hunger for all that is of the spring. Such a book just now has the spell in it of the voice of the earliest cuckoo.

There has been a good deal of public dissatisfaction with spring in this country of late years, and the press has taken up the matter regularly as the season came round. Mr. Austin, as laureate of the English Spring, comes forward on her behalf, and

also on that of the English poets, whom a writer in the *Pall Mall Gazette* had accused of dating the weather according to Virgil and Theocritus, regardless of latitudes and truth. Mr. Austin's "Defence of English Spring" is, however, only a defence of a *seasonable* English spring—which surely needs no defence. He elaborates an enticing description of a walk through woods and lanes which must be paradises of spring flowers, on a lovely sunny day improved by a passing shower—the veriest poet's darling of an April day. There are such April days, but not always; there are such paradises, but not everywhere. Yet his readers must not thank Mr. Austin the less for the "woodland nosegays all ablow" he has given them because they cannot find the like for themselves just outside the railway stations. The minute panorama of the "Defence of Spring" has a convincing fidelity that proves Mr. Austin to be, as he claims, a learner from Nature at first hand. The "Farewell to Spring" is a poem of a higher class. It is a complaint to Spring of her early departure, snatching away her gifts, and Spring's answering plea that she must needs go soon to be the more loved, else

Twould be you that went away,  
Your love made fickle by monotony of May.

The long close of each stanza reminds the ear of Shelley's skylark—a reminder not disagreeable in a poem which is no way imitative.

But the best thing in this book is the "Hymn to Death." It has strength and grace in expression, with befitting harmonies of sound. And the feeling is pathetic without mawkishness. Scores of poets have praised death, longed for it, railed at it, wept at it, loathed it; and so it will go on for ever: the theme of Death can no more wear trite than the theme of Love. Mr. Austin's treatment of it is pretty well alone in an explicit protest against having to die in which there is no touch of horror of death or of the fear "as children fear to go in the dark." It is not that he shudders at death, but that he takes a righteous delight in life. The sadness of the "Hymn" means still the cheerfulness of the good brave verse in the "Prelude":—

My manhood keeps the dew of morn,  
And what I have I give;  
Being right glad that I was born,  
And thankful that I live.

And it is because of this, and because of the complete absence of hectoring, that the regret of this beautiful "Hymn" has no taint of weakness, and that if some readers, penetrated with a regret that all can share and missing a hope they know, feel a sense of pain, it will not be one of repulsion. Such lines as these will find a response in most hearts:—

Never, never more to stand,  
Spell-bound in a leafy land,  
Lie among the grasses tall,  
Hear the yaffle call, and call,

And lazily watch the lazy clouds slow floating over all.

That time and life will be, but I shall ne'er

Find little feet upon the stair,

Feel little arms about my throat,

Hear little gleeful voices float

Upon the wavelets of the summer air.

That I again shall never share

The peace that lies upon an English lawn,

Watch the last lingering planet shining fair

Upon the un wrinkled forehead of the dawn.

Never, never, never more,  
When fate or fancy bids me roam,  
Lessen with loving thoughts the last long  
mile  
That leads unto my home.

The poem which gives its name to the book can only have had that post of honour as a second prelude—an intimation of the writer's scheme of life and dedication to Spring. Some of the verses are pretty, some carry their arguments well; but, on the whole, the manner is too important for the matter. There is noticeable in this poem a flaw which runs through more of Mr. Austin's work. He seems not to have the power, or rather the habit, of presenting a scene to his mind as if it were really happening. So we have the prior of a convent, where Mr. Austin had lodged three days, taking a sudden thought, as Mr. Austin is going off with guide and mule and baggage, that his guest had better stop and join the brotherhood, and at a glance reading his inmost soul, including his education, qualities, and past career; and we have Mr. Austin all the while, with an impossible rudeness, attending to birds and hawthorn blossoms, and letting the good man compliment and counsel without taking any notice of him, and not sure when he begins and when he leaves off. In a poem called "Dead!" the flaw is fatal. Even a tardy death comes at the last as a surprise, and there never is a newly bereft mourner who has not a feeling as if what he too well knows to be true cannot be true—nothingness cannot have come where life was astir. A poet could present nothing more human than that one looking on the last sleep of an idolized child who a day or two ago "lightly drew its breath, and felt its life in every limb," should be possessed with the dazed wonder which, itself a stronger form of sorrow, seems to have stilled sorrow, and should, as in this poem, declare, "No, no, it cannot be." But when a parent is seemingly quite taken by surprise at what has happened—

What do I see? A coffin! Dead?  
Yes, dead at break of morning—

we have an incongruity to set us questioning at the outset; and when we go on to verse after verse of coaxing talk to the corpse, making believe that it is playing a trick for fun, the scene called up becomes grotesquely painful. The dead child is tempted with snowdrops, assured that the speaker is really crying at being teased, urged with bribes, in detail, of a ramble, of doing whatever it likes, of being romped with, of not going to bed at bedtime, of being naughty and throwing the ink about. Then, as if the bribe of the ink had been a test proof, he exclaims, "Alas! Alas! it is no cheat." Take the scene with any clear imagination of it and it is outrageous. The only thing which could make it credible and give it pathos is that the speaker should be a harmless lunatic unable to comprehend death. But this is a sane man beside his child in her coffin. How the reader misses the touch with which Mr. Austin Dobson in "Before Sedan" can give in one little verse a full picture of home happiness and its blight by death! and how unfortunate it is for "Dead!" that it reminds the reader of Mrs. Browning's "Little Mat-tie," where the childish ways and play are brought in to make with a touching naturalness just such a contrast with death as Mr.

Austin has in view! The incompatibility of the poem with its circumstance is aggravated by the artificial effect of each verse being wound up by a fourth line ending in "morning." Mr. Austin must have designed to keep the notion of morning running in the mind like a suggestive accompaniment; but the dramatic result is as if the speaker were deliberately enlivening his prattle with a refrain to amuse the child or himself.

Probably it is from defect of dramatic sympathy that Mr. Austin allows himself now and again to break the illusion of some fine poem by irrelevantly calling attention to himself in his strictly individual capacity. We are not objecting to the self-assertion as self-assertion—self-assertion may have the very heart of poetry in it; but in purely subjective poems Mr. Austin suddenly puts a stop to that identity of the reader with the poet which the best subjective poetry brings about, limiting the thought to his personality singly. He does it in his 'Hymn to Death'—much like a painter who should choose to plant himself in front of his picture when his admirers were becoming absorbed in it.

Turning to minor details, we take objection to Mr. Austin's occasional feeble inversions for the sake of rhythm or rhyme, e.g., "I had the summons not obeyed"; "Why do you enter not and kneel?" "It flattery drank"; "To her I you resign." Mr. Austin is no beginner and no weakling. Since he does not take the trouble to compel his words to go straight, it must be that he does not dislike their limping. We wish he did. And need he be quite so ostentatious of his vocabulary of local words? It is a wise man's venture to use a dialect word which says something no standard English word says so well; it is a whim to darken meaning with dialect words when there are fine standard words that will serve the purpose.

We have had too much enjoyment from Mr. Austin's book to leave off with fault-finding. Let us at parting quote one of his sonnets. He uses with success the Shakspearian method, building up the sonnet step by step to the climax couplet:—

Come, let us go into the lane, love mine,  
And mark and gather what the Autumn grows:  
The creamy elder mellowed into wine,  
The russet hip that was the pink-white rose;  
The amber woodbine into rubies turned,  
The blackberry that was the bramble born;  
Nor let the seeded clematis be spurned,  
Nor pearls, that now are corals, of the thorn.  
Look! what a lovely posy we have made  
From the wild garden of the waning year.  
So when, dear love, your summer is decayed,  
Beauty more touching than is clustered here  
Will linger in your life, and I shall cling  
Closely as now, nor ask if it be Spring.

#### *Harrow School and its Surroundings.* By Percy M. Thornton. (Allen & Co.)

WHATEVER may be said against Mr. Thornton's labour of love and enthusiasm—and it is not devoid of the faults bred by those emotions—no one will deny it the merit of opportuneness. Many eyes besides those of Harrovians must recently have turned with interest and sympathy to the great school upon the hill. A head-mastership of over five-and-twenty years is not, indeed, unique, but a head-mastership of that length without a decadence towards its close has been rare indeed. The *doyen* of head masters retires

from the sphere of his labours in the serene light of success and undiminished effectiveness, still young in years, and, curiously enough, with two predecessors—reduced since these words were written to one by the lamented death of the late Bishop of Lincoln—in the head-mastership still living. We have no authority to speak for Harrovians, who will have their own very distinct voice in this matter; but it may not be amiss, in considering a volume aided by and dedicated to Dr. Butler, to express a feeling, shared by most public schoolmen, that our public school system owes a deep debt to his personality, his intellect, and his influence both with colleagues and pupils. He passes from Harrow with the admiration and good wishes of all: may Gloucester deserve and appreciate its good fortune!

The chief defect of Mr. Thornton's work is its want of proportion. A chronicle of the rise, the fluctuating fortunes, the successive rulers, of a great public school such as Harrow, is, or might be, a thing of educational and social—perhaps even of national—importance. A chronicle of the school cricket and a genial puff (pp. 348–9) of a club called the Harrow Wanderers have also their right to exist and to be thought interesting. But it is a mistake to jumble these diverse subjects together in order to give a kind of catholicity to the volume. It is difficult, after reading the earlier chapters of Mr. Thornton's book, to read the latter portion without smiling where he wishes the reader to be impressed. Serious disquisitions on cutting and driving, on the bowling of Mr. Harenc, on matches with Eton and Winchester half a century ago, would find a fit home in the school periodical and be read with interest and profit; as the peroration and crown of a serious history of John Lyon's foundation they are ridiculously out of place, and look far more contemptible than they really are. Far as it was from his intention to do so, Mr. Thornton has made Harrow's athletic enthusiasm look absurd by his own lack of literary tact and balance. Neither is it possible wholly to approve his taste in graver matters. He would not willingly, we are sure, cause the world to believe that the prosperity of Harrow depends in any degree on the favour of certain highly placed families; yet his repeated allusions to the great "Harrow families," his candidly expressed awe at the names of Bessborough, Northwick, and Peel, would lead persons who had no other sources of information than this book to suppose that Harrow School was a feeble and precarious combatant in the educational arena, needing constant encouragement from half a dozen aristocratic supporters. A more ludicrous and untrue conclusion could not be arrived at, yet it would be a natural inference from this book. Surely a loyal lover of the school ought to hold that Harrow can confer far more on any families than she can receive from them.

How artless Mr. Thornton is in these and similar matters may be shown from a passage (pp. 358–9) describing Byron's boyhood at Harrow. It is written quite seriously; the italics are ours:—

"The noble poet seems to have fraternized with the townspeople; for instance, with old Mrs. Arnold, the stationer, whom the boys familiarly called 'Polly.' She was never tired

of praising the consideration which his lordship showed for those with whom he came in contact. There was a certain family called Greentree, who kept what in modern parlance is known as a tuck-shop, where Byron was wont to regale. When Mr. Greentree died, the poet.....wrote an epitaph which was placed on Isaac Greentree's grave.....The closing lines ran as follows:

A time shall come when all green trees shall fall,  
And Isaac Greentree rise above them all.

*A sure evidence,*" proceeds Mr. Thornton, "that Byron at Harrow was a believer in the truths of Christianity. Considering that the writer was only thirteen years of age, one hereby gains some idea of what Lord Byron's ability was at Harrow."

Is Mr. Thornton absolutely without fear of Byron's ghost? The sardonic spirit of the author of 'Don Juan' may yet murmur to him an unpublished stanza about a "deep-mouthed Boötean" wandering on the well-loved slopes of Ida.

We have spoken with frankness of the leading defect, as it appears to us, of Mr. Thornton's book. We turn with pleasure to record some of its merits. The examination into the early history of "Herga super montem"—known, apparently, in old English records as "Hearge," or "Harewe atte Hulle"—has been carried back conjecturally to the days of Boadicea (see pp. 2–3), and, although indulging in wild guess-work, Mr. Thornton certainly contrives to make his introductory chapters bright and interesting, and not more sketchy than, in the absence of *certain* information, they were bound to be. He seems to have established by documentary evidence that a school existed at Harrow before the foundation of John Lyon received its charter from Elizabeth in 1571. Mr. Thornton betrays a little anxiety here and there lest this fact should in some degree detract from Lyon's credit—a fear, it is hardly necessary to add, which is quite superfluous. Nobody supposes that education was a wholly new idea in 1571. If it be any satisfaction to Mr. Thornton to know it, the oldest public school foundation in England, that of Winchester—nearly two hundred years older than Lyon's great institution at Harrow—is believed on good evidence to have had a similar local predecessor. The revision of John Lyon was more markedly shown in fostering a tiny germ than it would have been in sowing seed at a venture on what might well have proved stony ground. And he differs from most of our great educational founders in having set an example not only of princely munificence, but of personal self-denial to achieve his end: so much at least seems to be proved by the letter (p. 70) from Sir Gilbert Gerard, unearthed in the Rolls Office. Very graphic also is Mr. Thornton's sketch of the Babington conspiracy (pp. 37–42), and the desperate flight of the conspirators through the now miscalled St. John's Wood—then a trackless forest—until arrested at Belamy's farm at Uxendon. Belamy was a near neighbour and acquaintance of John Lyon, and was executed for complicity in concealing them; Lyon's well-approved loyalty was never impeached, though, in the rough justice of the time, transactions between him and Belamy might easily have involved him in suspicion. A deed exists (p. 42) signed by Lyon and Belamy, to which, in the handwriting of the latter, have been added the names of Jack Straw and

Wat Tyler. Mr. Thornton conceives that this was a joke of Belamy's, but gives no explanation wherein the joke lay. Yet he unconsciously supplies this (p. 51) by telling how one Richarde Lyon was slain by Wat Tyler, and how Lyon of Kingsbury took sides with the king. Hence, we infer, originated the documentary jest of the signatures added by Belamy, apparently to rally his friend Lyon on these episodes in his family history. It is pushing conjectural history somewhat far to hint (p. 64) at a possible acquaintance between Lyon and Shakespeare based upon a common intimacy with "Dr. Caius" of Ruislip.

Conspicuous among Harrow's rulers was the great Etonian, Thomas Thackeray, whose failure to obtain the provostship of King's College (1743) threw him into the arms of Harrow three years later. How well he served her interests for the next fourteen years as head master is well told by Mr. Thornton; and the view, attributed to Dr. H. M. Butler, that Thackeray deserves to be regarded as Harrow's second founder, seems amply justified by the facts. In this case, and not in this case only, Eton seems to have given of her very best to aid her great rival.

In Dr. Heath's reign (1771-85) occurred the memorable secession of the disappointed candidate for the head-mastership, Samuel Parr, to Stanmore, whither he led away forty of his pupils as well as an able assistant, Mr. Roderick. The action seems unprincipled; it is clear, however, from Mr. Thornton's account, that many loyal Harrovians sympathized with Parr, and resented his rejection in favour of Dr. Heath. In the words of the curious memorial (p. 167) addressed by the senior scholars to the governors, "A school of such reputation as our late Master [Sumner] hath rendered this, ought not to be considered an appendix to Eton"; and this "anti-Etonian document," as Mr. Thornton calls it, evidently represented a feeling that existed outside as well as inside the school. The crisis was acute; we agree with Mr. Thornton that to have survived it forms the best testimonial to the vitality and "native worth" of Lyon's institution.

One thing must inevitably strike the reader of this volume—that is, the immense fluctuations of Harrow School. Perhaps its proximity to the metropolis made the weather-gauge of its popularity very sensitive; in any case, the facts are notable and even startling. In 1721, under Dr. Brian, the numbers were 144; but in 1745 Dr. Cox had let them down to 50. In 1844, when the present Dean of Llandaff became head master, he found the school down to 70; he left it, in 1859, numbering 438. In the summer of 1846 the school rose at one bound from 173 to 221. It has now, we are told (p. 289), over 500 boys—so potent in winning and holding have been a few decades of thoroughly competent administration.

It is observable also that the tradition of learning and study among the masters has been usually maintained in days when the same could hardly be said of other public schools. We should say that happy chance and good management combined have made poetry and music somewhat stronger educational agencies at Harrow than elsewhere.

Harrow enthusiasm will no doubt call for a second edition of this book, in view of which we subjoin a list of minor defects which Mr. Thornton may consider worth correction. On p. 14, note, the quip ascribed to Bishop Wilberforce is, we believe, far older. On p. 29 the implied statement that the foundations both of Eton and Winchester were for the rich and noble is certainly inaccurate. On p. 69 the supposed allusion to Harrow School in 'Bartholomew Fair' is obviously a mere guess, based upon the fact that Cokes is called a squire of Harrow-on-the-Hill. The phrase "attempts to narrow Harrow influence" is not happy; and "The school exchequer had drifted to a low ebb" is a very odd combination of metaphors. The ungainly compliment about certain modern bachelor masters and their purses and their matronly aid (p. 89) should be entirely blotted out; and the sentence which closes p. 103 and reaches well down into p. 104 is a miracle of bad writing. The closing sentence of chap. viii. must be Tupper's, and in that case should be duly ascribed to him; on p. 197 "solvore" for *volvere* ruins an apposite quotation. On p. 212 the sentence, "Like Dr. Newman, when he bade adieu to . . . Oxford, this interesting good-bye was in Dr. Drury's case to be—in a public sense at least—for ever," is neither grammar nor truth, as far as Dr. Newman is concerned. We rather doubt the statement (p. 256) that Arnold—the "Warwickshire schoolmaster," Mr. Thornton calls him—borrowed much from Harrow. On p. 305 the "critics who rise superior to all difficulties when in the self-appointed judgment-seat" are a creation worthy of Sir Boyle Roche or Sir Patrick O'Brien.

The gravest fault of omission in the book is its very defective sketch of Harrow studies at different epochs, of which next to nothing is said. Its sins of commission, though grave, are not too serious for pardon and amendment. The book is somewhat pretentious, somewhat ill-balanced, but not uninteresting.

#### *Diocesan Histories.—Winchester.* By William Benham, B.D. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.)

THERE is not much proof of original research in these pages—at all events, nothing of the thorough character that made Dr. Jessopp's companion volume on the see of Norwich so valuable; but they are otherwise to be commended, for Mr. Benham proves himself to be not only a learned, but a discriminating writer. Winchester was the royal city of King Alfred, and even after the Norman conquest it was frequently the residence of the sovereign and it was the assembling place of successive parliaments. It is not, therefore, surprising to find in Winchester Cathedral a building second only in interest to Westminster Abbey. For a considerable period it occupied that favoured position for national interment afterwards claimed by the great abbey. In the parcosles of the choir of Winchester Cathedral are six chests, placed there by Bishop Fox in 1524. They are said to contain the bones of pre-Norman kings and saints that were collected from the ancient crypt by Bishop Henry de Blois in the twelfth century. The roll of bishops of

this great historic pile, though containing some insignificant names and some distinctly vicious, is on the whole well worthy of the minster. It would be hard from a single see to rival ten such names as Birinus, St. Swithun, Walkelin, William Gifford, Henry de Blois, William of Wykeham, Henry Beaufort, William Waynflete, Lancelot Andrewes, and Samuel Wilberforce.

Mr. Benham in striking but terse language depicts the episcopate of Henry de Blois, which he justly describes "as the most eventful, as well as the most splendid, in the annals of Winchester." Bishop Henry took a foremost part in the disastrous quarrels of Stephen and Matilda, now on one side and now on the other; he was a great builder of castles on the numerous manors of the see; he was an energetic upholder of the rights of the Church; and, through his affection for Winchester rather than from personal pride, he strained every nerve to persuade the Pope to make his much-loved city an archbishopric, the metropolitan see of Wessex. But he will be best remembered as the founder of the venerable Hospital of St. Cross, that unique example of true mediæval charity. For another act his memory, too, should ever be blessed. In the midst of the cruel civil war

"he held a synod at Winchester under his legatine authority, at which it was resolved, in order somewhat to assuage the miseries of the war, that ploughs should have the same privilege of sanctuary with churches; and a sentence of excommunication was pronounced by the whole assembly, with the ceremony of lighted torches in their hands, against all who should attack or injure any person engaged in agriculture."

In recording the election of Bishop Waynflete, the successor of Cardinal Beaufort, in 1443, by the prior and convent of St. Swithun, our author appears to think that there was something very peculiar in his election by "inspiration," without any debate. But in all elections by chapters, secular or religious, of abbots, priors, or bishops, there were three kinds of procedure, any one of which might be adopted. The three modes of election were: firstly, by compromise, wherein certain delegates or proctors, being chosen by the chapter, retired to nominate, the remainder of the chapter continuing in prayer and pledged to accept the nomination of the delegates; secondly, by scrutiny, wherein the votes of the whole chapter were taken, usually in writing, a bare majority electing; and thirdly, by inspiration, or way of the Holy Ghost, when the election was made instantly, and apparently spontaneously, by a unanimous chapter immediately on assembling. The last, naturally enough, was the least usual method, but it cannot fairly be described as rare.

There are only two of the post-Reformation bishops of Winchester who shine with any degree of special lustre, the saintly Andrewes and the eloquent Wilberforce. The lives of the majority of these later bishops of Winchester tell but a sorry tale, and it is not to be wondered at that the historian of the see passes rapidly from one to the other. Still it is to his credit that he does not attempt to gloss over notorious evils so as to make the book pleasanter reading for modern Churchmen. Of Richard Neile, the successor of Bishop Andrewes, who filled in succession five bishoprics—Lichfield,

Lincoln, Durham, Winchester, and York—by arch flattery of those in power, it is recorded that

"when any man that had the renown of piety preached before King James, Neile, unwilling that the king should listen to him, was in the habit of whispering ribald stories to make the monarch laugh."

The boldest and most original chapter in the book is that entitled "The Whig Bishops," and there can be no doubt that Mr. Benham has herein brought to light the true cause of the gross nepotism and general deadness of the English Church of the last century, namely, the policy of appointing political bishops for the almost avowed purpose of thwarting and crushing the inferior clergy of an opposite school. That any diocese could recover from the neglect and covetousness of Bishop Brownlow North, half-brother to the Prime Minister, who retained the see from 1781 to 1820, says much for the vitality of the Church. The examination by him, or by one of his chaplains, of candidates for holy orders in a field whilst a cricket match was going on, is an indication of the style of his episcopate.

*The Student's Arabic-English Dictionary.* By F. Steingass, Ph.D. (Allen & Co.)

Dr. STEINGASS deserves considerable credit for having made the first serious attempt at providing a student's dictionary of the Arabic language. His previous English-Arabic dictionary was useful, and the present companion volume will prove even more serviceable. It is not, indeed, strictly scientific; nor is it easy to see how a student's dictionary could be made to fulfil all the demands of Arabic philology. A really satisfactory dictionary should contain full references to comparative forms in the sister languages of the Semitic group, which Dr. Steingass has not noticed; it should also deal with the difficult question of the creation of synonymous roots by the varied pronunciations of the different Arab tribes—a process of differentiation which has, perhaps, exercised a wider influence upon the Arabic tongue than upon any other literary language. Arabic is full of synonyms that are obviously due to nothing more than the mispronunciation of the different tribes and provinces of the Arabic-speaking nations, and it is possible to reduce the number of distinct roots to a curiously small total if this principle is carefully kept in view. The inquiry, however, is beset with difficulty, and it is not surprising that Dr. Steingass has contented himself with taking the language as he finds it in standard works of Arabic literature, without concerning himself with the question how these forms came into being. His dictionary is, indeed, what every student's dictionary is more or less, a compromise between the scientific ideal and the demands of the practical learner.

It is not certain, however, that this compromise is either necessary or judicious in the case of Arabic. In this language the structure is much more capable of being reduced to a uniform scientific basis than in most tongues. The labours of the native grammarians have not been in vain; they have succeeded in reducing the exceptions to their rules to the smallest possible

limits; and the general principles of the derivation of the various forms from a given root are so obvious and so universally applicable, that the student cannot too early become habituated to their practice. Every learner must at a very early period of his studies become accustomed to the method of tracing the various forms to their roots. Unless he grasps this principle, he will never obtain an insight into the character and growth of the language he is studying; whereas, once he has mastered the principle, there is nothing in the variations of meaning that are observed in a single root which cannot be reduced to a logical and etymological reason. It is true that owing to certain permutations of weak letters, and similar causes, there are a certain number of forms of which the root is not immediately obvious, and these may cause the beginner a little trouble; but they could easily be rendered clear by a few cross-references. On the whole, the arrangement strictly under roots is the only order that is satisfactory to the scientific student of the language, and also the only one that is in itself calculated to help the beginner in his endeavour to understand the character of the tongue.

Dr. Steingass, however, has preferred an arrangement which is a mixture of the root order and the alphabetical order, and while it is impossible to deny that the method is not satisfactory to the genuine student, it is undoubtedly easier to the ordinary reader who has occasion to look up an Arabic word. No one who has mastered the very careful introduction that is prefixed to the work will have any difficulty in finding any word that he may require. What we complain of is this—that the mere discovery of such a word, separated from its allied forms, will not aid the student in his understanding of the structure of the language, or enable him to grasp the general principles of derivation which obtain throughout the roots. Nothing is more striking to a student of Lane's or any other large lexicon arranged on the root principle than the affiliation of meanings—the gradual growth of complicated significations from the simple uses of words to denote the common actions of desert life. All this is hidden in such an arrangement as that adopted by Dr. Steingass. Nevertheless, his readers cannot but be grateful for what he has given them. Hitherto there has been no concise Arabic dictionary in English that the ordinary student could refer to with confidence. The great lexicons, like Lane, Freytag, Bustānī, &c., are expensive or written in foreign languages. It is nearly impossible to express the meaning of Arabic roots in such a language as the Latin, while the average student will not be able to make use of a dictionary of Arabic in Arabic, like the admirable work of Butrus Bustānī. The only Arabic-English dictionary in a portable form that has so far been accessible to students is Catafago's, of which it must be said that it is wholly inadequate and utterly unscientific.

Dr. Steingass's work must at once take its place as the only convenient Arabic-English dictionary in existence; and while the critic must regret the adoption of a method of arrangement which he cannot regard as satisfactory, it is not the less evident that the work supplies a want that has long been felt in the list of linguistic aids, and that the new

dictionary holds a position that is entirely its own among books of its kind.

Of its general accuracy there can be little doubt. Dr. Steingass has had plenty of authorities to work upon, and after the labour of Golius, Freytag, Lane, and Dozy, it would be strange if he were not able to supply a vast amount of valuable and trustworthy material. That there are oversights is natural, and one occurs on the very first page of the dictionary, where "Jumâdhâl-Awwal" is by some extraordinary mistake printed for *Jumâda-l-Uld*, involving both a wrong letter and a false concord. Similar mistakes might be pointed out in other pages; but they do not seriously detract from the usefulness of the book. So far English students of Arabic have been sorely in need of a good portable dictionary; and now they possess one, which, indeed, is not all they might desire, but which undoubtedly is the best within its limits at present at their command, and which will smooth the way to many who have hitherto found themselves confronted by many unnecessary difficulties owing to the want of such a dictionary as that which Dr. Steingass has now provided. After making every deduction for lack of scientific method, the new dictionary deserves a cordial welcome as a useful and conscientious work.

*Algernon Sidney: a Review.* By Gertrude M. Ireland Blackburne. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)

If Miss Blackburne has enemies, they must, according to a well-known saying, be jubilant; for in truth she has delivered herself into their hands. She has not sufficiently considered what are the necessary qualifications for success in so ambitious a task as she proposed to herself. She has not realized that perhaps there is no more difficult task in literature than to write a good monograph. To depict the life of any political personage with profit to the public requires many things which Miss Blackburne would probably claim for herself in only a modified sense: wide and matured knowledge of the political circumstances amid which he lived; a well-defined conception of the part which he played in those circumstances; the literary power, akin to the painter's art, whereby without sacrificing the due proportions of things the eye is insensibly directed to, and remains fixed upon, the figure whose impression is intended to be permanent upon the spectator's mind; and, the critic is bound in honesty to add, an adequate knowledge of the grammar of her own tongue. If to these qualifications be added the habit of self-restraint which leads authors to avoid unnecessary parentheses of thought and expression; to keep in the background their own views as to social questions, family life, loyalty to Queen Victoria, and things in general; to abjure moral reflections, ephemeral metaphors, and inverted commas; some of the main requisites for such an enterprise will have been fulfilled.

We have ventured to find fault with Miss Blackburne's grammar, and we feel bound to justify ourselves. It may be somewhat captious to object to such a sentence as "Having put down his Parliament, Lord Shaftesbury remained the chief point of danger to Charles," for this is a common

sort of mistake, or to the metaphor (p. 58) "The crest of the wave which had carried Oliver to power was no longer towering like a great 'bore' above the others on the stormy sea," because "bores" are not formed on the sea. But we are on safe ground in remonstrating against the language of Miss Blackburne's emphatic statement (p. 50) that "the Elizabethan court, nor that of Charles I., can scarcely be recommended as perfect models, while that of James I. was quite enough to condemn royalty"; all the safer, indeed, since two pages earlier she has used the word "condemn" in its proper sense. That there are dangers in a too confident use of the historic present is shown in many passages (*e.g.*, pp. 67, 68, 78, 145), of which we will quote but one:—

"So Frederick, in the usual fashion, gives the English to understand that it is very kind of them to help him, but, of course it is partly their own interest which is at stake (as no doubt it was), and he made use of every trick by which he could gain time."

The italics are our own; so they are in the following somewhat exhausting passage (p. 15):—

"The younger generation suddenly realize their own theories must colour their practice; they must act, and they must have something real if they are genuine. As soon as they begin to think and work for themselves they cast off the traditions of their family. They either adopt them again as their own principles, or, as in this case, recognize their preference of some others which may more nearly approach their ideas of the needs of the age, that is, of themselves."

This is just such a passage as school-masters love to set to their pupils for correction.

It is entertaining under the circumstances to find that the only flaw which Miss Blackburne can discover in her hero's character is a disregard for grammar. The offence is committed by Sidney in the following words:

"The conclusion must be left unto such persons as the king shall please to employ in it. God be thanked, he will find little difficulty; if he can but write his name he will be able enough for anything that remains to be done."

The confusion of persons is, no doubt, reprehensible; still the reader with an effort can understand what Sidney meant. So, though we cannot construe the following sentence, we think we can understand what Miss Blackburne meant when she penned it:—

"Popular anger had been great against his brother, and when Cornelius was banished, after torture and imprisonment, John took him out of the Hague in his own carriage, the mob, instigated, it is said, by those who were in the confidence of the Prince of Orange, set upon the great Pensioner, and murdered him."

Had Miss Blackburne entrusted her proofsheets to a friend for correction, a large number of the defects which at present necessarily draw off the attention of a reader would have been avoided. We should not, as on p. 74, read of the "Dutch" and the "Hollanders," as if they were meant to be distinct peoples; we should not have one of Sidney's brothers going through strange metamorphoses, appearing as Lord Lisle in one place, Philip Sidney in another, Philip Lisle (!) in another, and bearing two of these names at once in a fourth; we should not be told that in 1676 Sidney would hear the news of the fall of Clarendon, which happened in 1667,

or that persons' "actions were hybridized by bribery," whatever that may mean; the quotation from Milton on p. 159 would be correctly given; the note on p. 115 would be accurate; and phrases such as "from whom his pen cannot be refrained from writing," "the House resolved itself into Committee altogether," would have undergone revision.

It would take much space to point out how and to what extent our estimate of Sidney differs from that of Miss Blackburne. She was evidently determined to make a hero of him, a rank to which he has but a doubtful claim; and her descriptions of all transactions in which he was engaged are coloured by this determination. He was the most notable failure of his age, and the reader would have been glad to be told why he failed. But when Miss Blackburne on one page quotes Whitelock as to "the overruling temper and height of Col. Sidney," and on the next page but one translates this into "Whitelock's picture of Sidney's power of command," it is clear that she is not likely to solve the problem. She more than once says that he was "terribly in earnest," but so were others who succeeded. We need the contrast drawn between the strong men of coarse grain, who brought their strength to bear day by day upon the constantly recurring crises, and the *doctrinaire* politician of noble aims, of fine albeit somewhat priggish temper, whose influence upon his own age, at any rate, is barely traceable. Instead of magnifying the importance of the few pieces of practical work which Sidney did, but which many men of his time could have done equally well, Miss Blackburne might have emphasized the fact that it is to the historian of morals rather than to the historian of politics that Sidney will ever be an interesting figure. It is not likely that any event of importance that took place would not have taken place, that any different turn would have been given to political history, had Sidney not lived. He was, it is true, regarded somewhat vaguely as a dangerous man by all parties, and there is no doubt that he was a brave man who died bravely. But he never became a considerable factor of English politics, because, while seeing far further than his contemporaries, he could not take the initiative in action. Discourses on government were all well enough, but a man who was ever hankering after an ideal could not exercise a great influence at a time when in the play of passions no one could tell what a day would bring forth.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*Lester's Secret.* By the Author of 'Old Myddleton's Money.' 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

*A Dog with a Bad Name.* By Florence Warden. 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

*The Unhired Labourer; or, the Desiring of a Good Work.* By A. M. U. 3 vols. (Maxwell.)

*Elfrixa: an Historical Romance of the Twelfth Century.* By Mrs. Edmund Boger. 3 vols. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

*Mr. Butler's Ward.* By F. Mabel Robinson. (Vizetelly & Co.)

*The Corsars; or, Love and Lucre.* By John Hill. (Vizetelly & Co.)

*When We Two Parted.* By Sarah Doudney. (Maxwell.)

*Germinale.* Par Émile Zola. (Paris, Charpentier.)

*Caporal Silvestro.* Di Salvatore Farina. (Milan, Brigola; London, Nutt.)

In spite of the great improbability of the "secret" involved, there is a good deal in Miss Hay's story that has a certain fascination. The two poor sisters who suffer from Norman Pardy's inconstancy (why, by the way, this tasteless juxtaposition of names?), and upon whom falls the shadow of a terrible tragedy, are ably sketched, and indeed the characters all have their own methods of impressing their individuality on the reader. Thus the sordid Chicks, the miser's family, are left to exhibit their strange qualities through their conversation, and a long description, which would not have answered the same purpose, is thus avoided. The least possible character is Lester himself. It is very probable that a girl like Joy, in her resentment at what seems a selfish ruse on Lester's part, would refuse to recognize the legality of her union with him; but that any man in love with his wife should remain a tranquil spectator while that wife posed as an unmarried heiress, with crowds of suitors at her feet, is more doubtful. On the whole, in spite of some blots, among other things a certain lady-like haziness on the legal aspects of her complicated imbroglio being slightly noticeable, Miss Hay has made the public her debtors for a well-sustained story.

'A Dog with a Bad Name' ought to maintain the reputation of the author of 'The House on the Marsh'; it is wonderfully ingenious in contrivance, full of surprises, and as intricate as 'The Comedy of Errors.' There is too much delay in starting, and the reader must be warned not to be too easily daunted by the first volume. The second makes ample reparation; every page introduces fresh knots in the thread of the story, and the untying of them is effected so cleverly and with so much originality of invention that the interest is increased rather than diminished by the solution. Perhaps there is room for a diversity of opinion as to the necessity for giving a distinct picture of the puppets who appear and disappear, plot and counterplot, drop dark hints, and break off at the important word. Miss Warden, like other writers of stories of mystery, does not care to go deep into character, but she can sketch a face well, and in the case of a certain Capt. Morrison, who is very hardly used in the story, she has given something more than the surprise of mere incidents. The story originally appeared in the *Family Herald* under a different name. In its three-volume shape it has every chance of being popular.

It is difficult to characterize such a story as 'The Unhired Labourer,' at once pious and very worldly, clever and yet disappointing, comical and serious. A. M. U. relates the struggles of a sober-minded young man who wants to be a missionary, who loves and marries a pretty heiress, and forgets his vocation in the pleasures or distractions of second-rate Calcutta society. The wife does

not quite appreciate her husband's choice of a career, and his affection for her, with a succession of intrigues very remarkable even in an Indian novel, keeps him standing idle in the world's market-place for some time. His conscience pricks him at odd moments, but on the whole he does not appear to be in much of a hurry to do a good day's work, and evidently keeps one eye on the saving clause of his favourite parable. Indeed, it will strike the reader as a fortunate thing that the desiring of the good work continues so long without fruition, for Lawrence Gee has much to unlearn before he can be considered a fit man to convert mild Hindoos into Christians. If the story is to be tested simply by comparison with other religious novels, it must be allowed to be above the average in interest and excitement, and even in the analysis of the hero's character. But it is not in connexion with him that the author has produced his, or her, most skilful work. The two heroines, Lawrence's wife and Lottie Warner, will be more to the mind of the ordinary reader, in spite of the fact that they are amongst the causes which keep the unhired labourer from his vocation.

Mrs. Boger is evidently an enthusiast, but we have found it almost impossible to feel any enthusiasm about her gracefully written romance, in which we gently drift down the current of the latter half of the twelfth century. Legends from the pages of Camden, Burke, and Walron have furnished her with materials for her tale, which may best be described as a romantic biography of Sir John de Courcy; for the heroine, Elfrida (Mrs. Boger has modified her "proper appellation, Africa," she says, lest her book should be supposed to have any relation to the "Dark Continent"), closes her tranquil career in the middle of the third volume, the episode of the championship taking place several years after her death. The hardship and squalor of the time are hardly touched on at all, and the characters, almost without exception, are kindly, refined gentlefolk of to-day, for Mrs. Boger abstains from all archaisms of speech as well as from any attempt to reproduce the seamy side of mediæval life in England. There is no realism, in any sense of the word, in 'Elfrida,' and the sentiment is not sufficiently passionate to gratify the taste of modern students of romance. This being the case, it is to be feared that in three-volume form Mrs. Boger's work can hardly hope to find a wide circle of readers.

Miss Mabel Robinson thinks it necessary to assure her readers in a preface that the heroine of her story, though born in Ireland, "leaves her native land at the close of the Introduction," lest it should be supposed that agrarian matters, of which Englishmen have probably grown weary, at any rate in fiction, were unpleasantly prominent in 'Mr. Butler's Ward.' If not prominent throughout, they supply the chief motive of the tale, and most of the leading characters are Irish; but this need not alarm even such readers as object to Irish novels. After the heroine—the daughter of a murdered bailiff—has received her education in a French convent, has half forgotten her tragic childhood, and married an artist, she lives almost constantly in England, and her life is that of the typical happy matron, merging her

nationality and youthful prejudices in complete devotion to her husband. This marriage occurs very early in the book, and Deirdre goes through her most moving experiences after she has become a wife. Between the death of her father and the birth of her baby the feelings which possess her mind are not very intense, or at any rate they are not described with much intensity. But her story is, perhaps, all the more natural on that account; and Miss Robinson has so far succeeded in her aim as to produce a conspicuously natural romance. A quite unusual fidelity in reproducing the interior life of young married people is the distinguishing mark of the story, which, without being a masterpiece, or even approximately a masterpiece, is both artistic and simple. The best of its features could not well be indicated without revealing the plot, and to do so would greatly diminish the reader's interest beforehand. But 'Mr. Butler's Ward' may be recommended as a charming book, poetically conceived, and worked out with tenderness and insight.

"Firelight, Tobacco, and Gloom" is the heading of one of the chapters in Mr. Hill's new story, and it would not have been an inappropriate title for the whole work. There is plenty of firelight in the domestic circle of the Raynhamns, and sweet May Raynham in particular; there is tobacco-smoke more or less reeking throughout the book; and there is plenty of gloom due to a couple of consummate villains, Corsar the elder, and his Yankee friend Cyrus Shute, whose business makes him anything but a mere looker-on in London. He has come over to glean the nuggets of his hypothetical mine in the other hemisphere, and ends as a cheat in a novel ought to end. But the main interest in the story is centred, as far as the author can centre it, in university don who pays court to a ballet-girl. These wonderful creations of Mr. Hill's genius talk the most audacious slang and weave the most original romance ever conceived by a writer to whom slang and romance are the indispensable conditions of the art of fiction. Carl Corsar, M.A., and Jenny Sandham are more sublime in their way than anything Mr. Hill has yet produced.

There is much to praise and little to find fault with in Miss Doudney's homely romance. The Nonconformist minister and his surroundings, his Puritan daughter Lydia and her lively maid, and the humours of his congregation are drawn with a thoroughly sympathetic hand. Shrewd sayings in a sententious form are scattered thickly throughout these pages, and prove the author to be a close but kindly student of humanity. She possesses, moreover, a vein of quiet humour which emerges pleasantly at times, as well as an artistic restraint which spares the reader unnecessary details. 'When We Two Parted' is a pleasant story of the conventional order, and, having said so much, we feel at liberty to express our regret that the author, who writes her own tongue so naturally and correctly, should display such sovereign disregard for the genders and accents of French particiles. And, though it has become a familiar colloquialism, the word "frivoller" in the mouth of one of Miss Doudney's charming heroines, not other-

wise given to slang, is an unwelcome surprise.

M. Zola's new book, though nominally one of the Rougon-Macquart series, has, like several of the others, no real connexion with the earlier volumes of the series. 'Germinal' is a dismal book about coal miners, written with much research and with considerable power, but full of the coarseness of 'L'Assommoir' and of the miserable morality of 'La Joie de Vivre.'

'Caporal Silvestro' is one of the Italian author Salvatore Farina's graceful little tales, in which he takes an optimistic view of life and man, in singular contrast to the tone of pessimism and ultra-naturalism for the moment in vogue among his countrymen. The tale is, as the author says, a simple story, but in this simplicity lies its charm. It is only the history of the uneventful lives of an old couple. There is no love-making in the book from end to end, and yet it interests the reader as few love stories do, and makes him wish that more of these simple tales—transcripts in the good sense from the life—were written by modern continental authors.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*A Modern Daedalus*, by Mr. Tom Greer (Griffith, Farran & Co.), is not a novel, but an exceedingly clever imaginative forecast of the dangers resulting to the State from the discovery of the secret of aerial locomotion, if that secret remained in the exclusive possession of a rebellious party. Mr. Greer assures his readers in his preface that he is a lover of England, but his method of proving his affection is somewhat strange. The narrator, who is supposed to have solved the problem alluded to above, is represented as having been irresistibly driven by force of circumstances to lend the aid of his invention to his Irish fellow countrymen, then in open insurrection, with the result of completely "smashing up" the English forces by land and sea. The accounts of his first appearance in London, of the popular excitement and the scenes in the House of Commons, are cleverly and humorously told, for Mr. Greer writes ably in spite of an occasional tendency to pororate. But the interest flags somewhat in the last chapters, where the campaigns of the aerial dynamite brigade provoke and suffer from comparison with the efforts of Jules Verne.

*The Missing Man* of Mr. H. Sutherland Edwards (Remington & Co.), as might be supposed, is a mystery; but it is a mystery as seen from the inside. That is to say, Mr. Edwards's readers are the only persons to whom everything is plain and above-board throughout. The mystification is reserved for the actors in the drama, which has been laid in the middle of the last century, and which is unquestionably interesting. It might, indeed, have been made more exciting. If a practised writer like Mr. Edwards had desired to produce something in the sensational and *ad captandum* style, which the form of the book certainly suggests, he might easily have deepened and suspended the interest in half a dozen places, and thus added new thrills to those which he is likely to create on the nerves of his readers. Nevertheless, there is enough of sensation in 'The Missing Man' to satisfy a reasonable appetite. The beginning of the story is a trifle too broad.

MR. LENNOX PEER's collection of stories of Highland sport, reprinted from *Longman's, Land and Water*, and the *Whitehall Review* under the title of *A Highland Gathering* (Longmans & Co.), is pleasant reading, especially to those who have long been absent from the loch and corrie.

There is nothing very original about the book, though such incidents as a "grand old ram" getting up between the stalker and the stag, and a royal being sent headlong down the wind by an old lady and her botanical husband, the old lady advising the disappointed sportsmen to hurry on and catch the stag, are diverting enough. How "that big trout," which had defied a whole family of fishermen and slipped through the murderous toils of the keeper, was brought to bank in an hour by two unscrupulous schoolboys with a cross-line and three pike-hooks slipped dexterously under its tail, is also a droll anecdote. "The Foresting of Strathbrachen" gives the not unreasonable grounds of such a proceeding from the point of view of a needy laird, whose one sheep-farmer has been ruined by the winters of 1879 and 1880, and on the principle of *audi alteram partem* deserves more attention than it will get, though few proprietors have the justification of Mr. Duncan Macleod. A little more knowledge of the human inhabitants of the Highlands, to say nothing of a slight acquaintance with the language of Paradise, would have given this cheerful book a more serious value.

THE most interesting part of *Charles George Gordon: a Sketch*, by Mr. R. H. Barnes and Major C. E. Brown (Macmillan & Co.), consists of Mr. Barnes's reminiscences of the lamented hero. They are, however, so slight that they had better have been printed in a magazine.—*The Life and Letters of Adolphe Monod* (Nisbet) is a translation, judiciously abridged, of the book published by one of his daughters. It gives a good idea of one of the most popular ministers of the Protestant Church in France during the second half of the present century, but it is rather a description of his religious views than a biography.

A CHEAP edition of Redspinner's agreeable volume of *Waterside Sketches* has been issued by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. The volume is very neat and resembles Mr. Douglas's successful series of American reprints, but the paper is not quite so good. "The Waterside Series," which the 'Waterside Sketches' initiate, ought to be highly popular. Pleasant volumes on country pursuits are much more wholesome reading than the sensational tales with which the publishers are flooding the bookstalls, and are much better worth the shilling asked. We wish "The Waterside Series" all success.

To his excellent "Canterbury Poets" Mr. Scott has added *The Poems of William Blake*, with selections from his prose.—Shilling books seem the rage. Mr. Stock has issued at that price his "facsimiles" of *The Pilgrim's Progress* (1678), *The Compleat Angler* (1653), and the *editio princeps* of *The Temple* (N.D.). It is a bold experiment to test the growing taste for bibliography.

*Old and Rare Books* (Stock) is the title of a sensible lecture delivered before a popular audience at Swansea by Mr. J. C. Woods.

*Men, Women, and Progress*, by the late Mrs. Woodward (Dulau), is written with much earnestness, but is unfortunately thrown into dialogue form, the difficulties of which are too great for the author's literary skill.

*The Educational Year-Book*, sent to us by Messrs. Cassell, is a most useful work. We would suggest that in the lists of the colleges at Oxford and Cambridge the names of the tutors should be given.—The two Irish educational directories have wisely amalgamated, and the consequence is a considerable improvement in *Ellis's Irish Education Directory* (Dublin, Ponsonby). An alphabetical index has been added, which facilitates reference.—*The Medical Register* and *The Dentists' Register* (Spottiswoode) are official publications, and therefore their accuracy may be taken for granted.—Of Burdett's *Official Intelligence* (Effingham Wilson) the first

part of the third volume lies before us. It is distinguished by the same exhaustive and elaborate treatment as its forerunners. It deals with individual securities in great detail.—*The Official Year-Book of the Church of England* (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge) has been decidedly improved by abridgment. The excessive wordiness which marred the issue of last year has been abridged; but still more might be done in this direction.—*The Victorian Year-Book* (Trübner) of Mr. Hayter is, as always, excellent. An accurate account of the constitution of each Australasian colony (except New South Wales, which had to be omitted owing to an accident) has been added, and many valuable tables.—*May's British and Irish Press Guide* (May & Co.) is excellent. The lists of old newspapers and of amalgamations are interesting. The obituary for the year is long, and yet it is hardly complete, we imagine.—*The Electricians' Directory* (Tucker) contains several new tables, a biographical section (with very ugly portraits which had been better omitted), and other additions calculated to increase the utility of a promising work of reference.—*The Architects' and Contractors' Handbook*, edited by Mr. J. D. Mathews and published by Mr. Batsford, is a trade serial that may prove useful, but the editor ought hardly to insert encomiums on articles if he does not guarantee their correctness. A simple statement of facts without adjectives would be preferable.

MR. CASDAGLI has published a specimen of a translation of *Paradise Lost* into modern Greek. If supported, Mr. Casdagli means to bring out the whole of his translation in twelve parts. It is handsomely printed, and contains Dore's illustrations. Mr. Nutt is the agent for the book.

WE have on our table *Introduction to the Study of History*, by W. B. Boyce (Woolmer),—*Lord Tennyson*, by H. J. Jennings (Chatto & Windus),—*Hygience*, by E. F. Willoughby (Collins),—*A System of Psychology*, 2 vols., by D. G. Thompson (Longmans),—*The Atomic Theory of Lucretius*, by J. Masson (Bell),—*The Seaman's Guide to the Law of Storms*, by W. H. Rosser (Norie & Wilson),—*Text-Book of Harmony*, by G. Oakey (Curwen),—*Forestry of the Ural Mountains*, by J. C. Brown (Simpkin),—*Famous Literary Impostures*, by H. R. Montgomery (E. W. Allen),—*The Children of Issachar* (Putnam's),—*The Disk of Prophetic Reflection*, by E. A. Robinson and G. Wall (Griffith & Farran),—*An Intrigue at Bagneux* (Egleton),—*Arnold's Resolve*, by Mrs. Shadwell (Houlston),—*Daring Tom*, by E. C. Kenyon (S.S.U.),—*The Rivals in the Corn-Fields* (Griffith & Farran),—*Boys Worth Noting*, by J. L. Nye (S.S.U.),—*A Boy's Will*, by Miss Ellen Davis (Nisbet),—*A Long Lane with a Turning*, by S. Doudney (Hodder & Stoughton),—*The Starry Cross*, by J. Crowther (S.S.U.),—*Sunday Occupations for the Children*, by H. M. Barclay (Nisbet),—*Dunbar, the King's Advocate*, by Thistlewood (Edinburgh, Waddie),—*Plantation Lays, and other Poems*, by B. O'Neill (Columbia, Caloo),—*Verses from Japan* (Wyman),—*Thespis and Melpomene: a Lyrical Drama in Four Acts*, by A. Arterton (London Literary Society),—*Paradise Lost*, by John Milton, with Notes and Preface by M. Mull (Kegan Paul),—*Bible Thoughts for Daily Life*, by Mrs. C. G. Campbell (S.P.C.K.),—*Mission Addresses*, delivered in the Trophy Room, St. Paul's Cathedral, in the preparation for the London Mission, 1884–1885 (S.P.C.K.),—*The Christian's Jewels*, by the Rev. T. H. L. Leahy (Nisbet),—*Evangel and Evangelist*, by the Rev. A. Carr (S.P.C.K.),—*Farewell Discourses*, by M. D. Conway (E. W. Allen),—*The Antiquity and Genuineness of the Gospels* (Allen & Co.),—*First Principles of the Faith*, by M. Randles (Hodder & Stoughton),—*The Kingdom of God*, by James Candlish, D.D. (Edinburgh, Clark),—*The Pulpit Commentary: Jeremiah and Lamentations*, Vol. II., edited by the Rev. Canon Spence and the Rev. Joseph S.

Exell, M.A. (Kegan Paul),—*Voyage en Palestine*, by Gabriel Charmes (Paris, Lévy),—*Capri*, by J. C. Mac Kowen (The Author),—*L'Eresia nel Medio Evo, Studi*, by F. Tocco (Florence, Sansoni),—*Tableaux de la Révolution Française*, edited by T. F. Crane and S. J. Brun (Putnam's),—*Der Pessimismus in Vergangenheit und Gegenwart*, by O. Plümacher (Heidelberg, Weiss),—*Die Sprache als Kunst*, Part I. Vol. II., by G. Gerber (Berlin, Gaertner),—and *Die Sprache und das Erkennen*, by G. Gerber (Berlin, Gaertner). Among New Editions we have *The Boy's Own Book* (Lockwood),—*The Wild Tribes of the Soudan*, by F. L. James (Murray),—*The Sword of Damocles*, by A. K. Green (Ward & Lock),—*Hand and Ring*, by A. K. Green (Ward & Lock),—*The Compendious Calculator*, by D. O'Gorman and J. R. Young (Lockwood),—*Algebra*, Part II., by E. J. Gross (Rivingtons),—*A Treatise on Conic Sections*, by G. H. Puckle (Macmillan),—and *Churches of West Cornwall*, by the late J. T. Blight (Parker).

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

##### ENGLISH.

###### Theology.

Bathe's (A.) *What I Should Believe*, Manual of Self-Instruction for Church People, cr. 8vo, 3/6 cl. Edwards's (T. C.) *A Commentary on the First Epistle to the Corinthians*, Svo, 14/- cl. Hyett's (M. C.) *Simple Readings on the Minor Prophets*, 3/- Landells's (W.) *The Great Cloud of Witnesses: Second Series*, Joshua to David, cr. 8vo, 4/- cl. Lowe's (F. E.) *Under the Holy Cross*, Addresses on the Seven Last Words, 12mo, 2/- cl. Lythe's (J.) *Glimpses of Early Methodism in York and the surrounding District*, cr. 8vo, 4/- cl. Present-Day Tracts on Subjects of Christian Evidence, &c., Vol. 6, cr. 8vo, 2/6 cl.

###### Law.

Glen's (W. C.) *The Representation of the People Act, 1884*, cr. 8vo, 3/6 cl. Kelly's (E.) *The French Law of Marriage and the Conflict of Laws that Arises therefrom*, 8vo, 6/- cl.

###### Fine Art.

Parker's (H.) *The Nature of the Fine Arts*, 8vo, 10/- cl. Pierot (G.) and Chipiez's (C.) *History of Art in Phenicia and its Dependencies*, tr. by W. Armstrong, 2 vols. 42/-

###### Poetry and the Drama.

Coleridge's (S. T.) *Poetical Works*, Aldine Edition, 2 vols. 10/- Diabolus Amans, a Dramatic Poem, 12mo, 3/6 bds. Witcomb's (C.) *The Structure of English Verse*, cr. 8vo, 3/- cl.

###### History and Biography.

Bright (Right Hon. J.), *Public Letters of*, edited by H. J. Leech, cr. 8vo, 17/- cl. Chester's (W. D.) *Chronicles of the Customs Department*, 6/- Dictionary of National Biography, edited by L. Stephen: Vol. 2, Annesley—Baird, roy, 8vo, 12/6 cl.

Johnston's (A.) *Representative American Orations to Illustrate American Political History*, 3 vols., 12mo, 15/- cl. Scott's (J. G.) *France and Tongking, the Campaign of 1884, and the Occupation of Further India*, 8vo, 16/- cl.

###### Geography and Travel.

Chalmers's (J.) and Gill's (W. W.) *Work and Adventure in New Guinea, 1877 to 1885*, cr. 8vo, 6/- cl. Stevens's (C. W.) *Fly Fishing in Maine Lakes, or Camp Life in the Wilderness*, cr. 8vo, 3/6 cl.

Wright's (Rev. S.) *Annals of Blantyre*, 8vo, 5/- cl.

###### Philology.

Simpson's (F. P.) *Latin Prose after the Best Authors: Part 1, Cæsarian Prose*, 12mo, 2/6 cl. Voltaire's *Histoire de Charles XII., Roi de Suède*, edited by Fasmacht, 12mo, 3/6 cl.

###### Science.

Kirk's (Prof.) *Papers on Health*, Series 1 to 9, 18mo, 2/- each. Marshall's (J.) *The Hunterian Oration delivered at the Royal College of Surgeons, February 14th, 1885*, 8vo, 3/6

Taylor's (J. E.) *Our Common British Fossils, and Where to find Them*, cr. 8vo, 7/6 cl.

###### General Literature.

Bryson's (Mrs.) *Child Life in Chinese Homes*, illus., 5/- cl. Buchanan's (R.) *Foxglove Manor*, new edition, cr. 8vo, 3/6 cl. Countess Daphne, a Musical Romance, by Rita, 12mo, 2/-

Digby's (W.) *India for the Indians and for England*, 5/- cl. Encyclopædia Americana: Vol. 2, Cen—Fac, 4to, 42/- cl. Holmes's (O. W.) *Autocrat, Poet, and Professor at the Breakfast Table*, 3 vols., 12mo, 6/- cl.

Leno's (J. B.) *Art of Boot and Shoe Making*, cr. 8vo, 5/- cl. New Book of Sports, reprinted from the 'Saturday Review,' 6/-

Robinson's (F. M.) *Mr. Butler's Ward*, cr. 8vo, 6/- cl. Stewart's (C.) *Recalled*, cr. 8vo, 10/- cl.

Stone's (E.) *Hugh Moore*, 2 vols., cr. 8vo, 17/- cl. Thackeray's (W. M.) *Works*: Vol. 19, *Memoirs of Barry Lyndon*, Standard Edition, 8vo, 10/- cl.

Verne's (J.) *Keraban the Inflexible: Part 2, Scarpante the Spy*, illustrated, 7/6 cl.

Wicken's (H. F.) *The Kingswood Cookery Book*, 8vo, 2/- cl. Zola's (E.) *Nana*, illustrated, roy, 8vo, 7/6 cl.

###### FOREIGN.

###### Theology.

Bellesheim (A.): *Wilhelm Cardinal Allen u. die Englischen Seminare auf dem Festland*, 6m.

Bornemann (W. B.): *Origenes et Monachatus Origo*, 2m.

Grimm (J.): *Das Leben Jesu*, Vol. 3, 5m.

Midrasch (Bemidbar Rabba (Der), übertr. v. A. Wünsche, 15m.

**Midrasch Mischie, übertr. v. A. Wünsche, 3m.**  
**Tschackert (P.): Evangelische Polemik gegen die Römische Kirche, 8m.**

*Fine Art and Archaeology.*

**Haupt (H.): Der Römische Grenzwall in Deutschland, 2m. 50.**  
**Lippmann (F.): Der Italienische Holzschnitt im XV. Jahrh., 16m.**  
**Wagnon (A.): La Sculpture Antique, 25fr.**

*History and Biography.*

**Combes (F.): Madame de Sévigné, Historien, 6fr.**  
**Kugelmacher (E.): Filippo Maria Visconti u. König Sigismund, 1413-1431, 2m. 50.**  
**Rothen (G.): L'Allemagne et l'Italie, 1870-71, Vol. 2, 7fr. 50.**

*Geography.*

**Pietri: Les Français au Niger, 4fr.**  
**Philology.**

**Ballas (E.): Die Phrasologie d. Livius, 4m. 50.**  
**Goetz (G.): Glossarium Terentianum, 0m. 50.**  
**Kukula (R. C.): De Cruci Codice Vetusissimo, 2m.**  
**Reitzenstein (R.): De Scriptoribus Rel Rusticis qui intercedunt inter Catonem et Columellam, 1m. 20.**  
**Reuter (E.): De Dialecto Thessalica, 2m.**  
**Rustebuel's Gedichte, 10m.**

*Science.*

**Beiträge zur Paläontologie Oesterreich-Ungarns, hrsg. von E. v. Mojsiovics u. M. Neumayr, Vol. 5, 40m.**  
**Buchi (L. v.): Gesammelte Schriften, Vol. 4, 50m.**  
**Figuier (L.): L'Année Scientifique, 3fr. 50.**  
**Hueppel (F.): Die Methoden der Bakterien Forschung, 5m. 40.**  
**Kramer (A.): Theorie der Zwei- u. Dreiteiligen Astronomischen Fernrohr-Objective, 10m.**  
**Peschka (G. A. v.): Darstellende u. Projective Geometrie, 21m.**

*General Literature.*

**Gouivet (J. de): L'Étude Chandoux, 3fr. 50.**

## THE BIOGRAPHY OF SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE.

March 28, 1885.

MESSRS. PARTRIDGE & CO.'S account of their correspondence with me omits one important detail. In my letter of the 5th inst. I ventured to counsel them not to pin themselves to the statement that their book was commenced prior to the publication of mine, as it was just possible that, by the simple expedient of a comparison, some person might detect its absurdity. The advice was well meant, but Messrs. Partridge declined to profit by it. They valourously repeated their statement, adding, to my intense amazement, that they were ready to prove it. I naturally concluded that further correspondence was idle, and I determined to make the matter public, convinced that, if its investigation did not tend to the promotion of literary morality, it would, at any rate, prove of interest to the large section of the public engaged in the study of psychical phenomena.

It is to be presumed that Messrs. Partridge's book was begun at the beginning. Now if this be the case, it is singular that out of the eight pages of which the first chapter consists, quite four could never have been written without a consultation of the very book which Messrs. Partridge contend appeared only after theirs was commenced. The first paragraph illustrates the process of abridgment by which my volume has been brought within the narrower limits of a "shilling biography," and I feel constrained to quote it in juxtaposition with the opening paragraph of my own work:—

Wolf.

Partridge.

"One evening in the early part of the year 1784, a highly respectable Jewish merchant of the City of London announced to his wife, in their cosy drawing-room at Kensington, that he purposed paying a visit to Italy at an early date, to buy some advantageous parcels of straw bonnets, to which his correspondents had drawn his attention. In those days, when not merely the boring of the Mont Cenis, but railways themselves, were undreamt of, such a journey was no light matter. The wife, however, was young and adventurous, and she gave her consent to the proposed enterprise on one condition: that she was not left behind. The husband prudently declined to contest his partner's whim; the conjugal bargain was struck; the company of the lady's brother was invited, and the journey was un-

dertaken. Not the least important incident in this commercial expedition occurred at Leghorn, on the evening of the 24th of October, 1784. The lady in question gave birth to a boy, whose name was registered in the archives of the local synagogue as Moses Haim Montefiore. The travellers were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Elias Montefiore, of London, and Mrs. Montefiore's brother, Moses Mocatta, likewise of London; the *nouveau-né* was the subject of this book. In the Via Reale, opposite the new Leghorn synagogue, the house is still pointed out in which this event took place, just one hundred years ago."

Turning the page, I find dates and addresses which are only given in my book, and do not appear in any of the authorities quoted by Messrs. Partridge. Then there are references to the apprenticeship of the brothers Montefiore, to their *début* on the Stock Exchange, to the circumstances of Sir Moses's election as a *yahid* of the synagogue, to the elder Rothschild's marriage, and to the establishment of the Alliance Insurance Company, which never appeared in print before my book was published. All this is in one chapter—the first chapter of Messrs. Partridge's biography. Surely, if they can prove that this was written before my book saw the light, they will establish their writer's reputation as a "thought reader." To tell the number of a hidden bank-note has been accounted miraculous; but what shall we say of a gentleman who reads an entire work without seeing it?

Clairvoyance of this description has, however, its disadvantages. Not being controlled by an analytical spirit, it is apt to transcribe indiscriminately errors and authentic facts. This misfortune has befallen the—shall I say "mediumistic"?—gentleman employed by Messrs. Partridge. I find, for example, that on p. 105 of my book I stated that Alexandria was blockaded in 1840 by Admiral Napier, whereas in reality it was Admiral Stopford; on p. 47 of Messrs. Partridge's my error is repeated. Again, I spoke (p. 62) of Princess Victoria living during a certain year at Townley House, Ramsgate, instead of Pymont, Broadstairs; and the mistake reappears in Messrs. Partridge's book (p. 28). A third instance is very remarkable. In taking notes from the archives of the Board of Deputies, I transcribed a resolution, passed by the Board in January, 1845, on the subject of the Emancipation struggle. When I came to write on the episode, I found that I had mislaid my copy of the resolution, and, determining to correct it in proof, I wrote out its terms from memory, thus: "That the time is now fitting for a recommencement of the agitation for Jewish Emancipation." By an oversight I never did correct it, and in this form the resolution appeared (p. 157). On p. 68 of Messrs. Partridge's book we are gravely informed that "from the presidential chair of the Board of Deputies Sir Moses moved 'That the time is now fitting for a recommencement of the agitation for Jewish Emancipation.'" Now I will only remark in reference to this that I have the true text of the resolution at present before me. Can Messrs. Partridge's writer tell me what it is?

I will not burden the columns of the *Athenæum* with further details on this mysterious subject. What I have said of the first chapter of Messrs. Partridge's book applies to almost all the others. Under these circumstances it is a singular perversity which prevents them not only from acknowledging their indebtedness to me, but even from including my "Centennial Biography" among the "principal sources of information consulted" in the preparation of their book. As far as I can gather, their contention is that my work supplied *none* of the materials used in their compilation, and that, so far from it having done so, it only appeared after the latter

was commenced. To that my reply is that physically it is impossible. LUCIEN WOLF.

## THE BODLEIAN AND RADCLIFFE LIBRARIES.

A PLAN for a covered way between the Bodleian and Radcliffe was submitted to the Delegates a few years ago, but it was intentionally designed in a style that harmonized with the architecture of neither library, and, no alternative plan being proposed, the conclusion appears to have been too hastily arrived at that it was, artistically speaking, impossible to unite the two buildings.

I venture, however, after careful study of the problem, to feel confident that it involves no insuperable difficulty, and that a gallery might be designed that would connect the Radcliffe with the Bodleian, not only without injury to those structures, but even in a way to improve the general effect as viewed both from the All Souls and Brazenose approaches. If you will permit me, I think I shall be able to point out how this could be effected.

An obvious feature in the design would be an arcade of round-headed arches of the height and span of those in the basement of the Radcliffe, divided by well-proportioned pier-walls, and with two wider arches at the Bodleian end for carriages, as in the plan above alluded to.

The gallery proper might be lighted by small round-headed windows, proportioned after the niches in the upper story of the Radcliffe—one over each arch of the arcade—the walling between them being relieved by pilasters supporting a cornice and parapet. For the purpose of effecting without violence the junction of the new work with the somewhat monotonous south façade of the Bodleian it would be requisite to stop the series of windows and pilasters at the last of the smaller arches of the arcade at the Bodleian end. Their place might be supplied by niches containing statues of the Queen and the founders of the two libraries.

In height the gallery would range with the upper string course of the Bodleian, and its floor with the Picture Room. This would also sufficiently fit in with the lines of the Radcliffe. The width of the gallery would be ruled by the span between the outermost of the engaged columns facing the Bodleian, and so allow of the present doorway of the Radcliffe being enclosed, without alteration, at the end of the arcade. The entrance to the gallery from the Radcliffe would be on the landing below the staircase window.

Those of your readers who possess the faculty of forming mental pictures will find no difficulty in judging from this sketch what the effect would be of a connecting gallery designed on the lines suggested. The gain to members of the university and the officers and attendants of the two libraries would be very considerable, for they would be able to pass to and fro under shelter without descending or mounting more than one flight of stairs at either end; and ordinary visitors would be provided with a covered approach across the precincts in both directions. What, however, is of still more importance, the transport of books would no longer be carried on through the open air.

It may be well to add that any danger of fire to the Bodleian from the use of gas in the camera would be avoided by the employment of non-inflammable materials in the construction of the gallery, and, *ex abundante cautela*, by double iron doors, with vacant spaces between them.

The dimensions of the gallery would suffice to provide for a very large increase of book-shelves.

A NON-RESIDENT M.A.

BENYOWSKI.

MR. SHAW writes to us regarding our review of his book, 'Madagascar and France':—

"Exception is taken to my saying that Benyowski 'was the only man who ever gave

promise of an ability to organize and govern a French colony in Madagascar,' &c. The reasons given for dissenting are that the man was an immoral adventurer, and that he is represented by a Frenchman as everything that is bad. I have attempted no estimate of Benyowski's character as a man, but only his ability as an employé of the French Government in accomplishing that for which he was sent to Madagascar. Other cases are on record where men of little moral worth have been good generals, military governors and organizers, and it appears but poor reasoning to insinuate that a man could not have been the latter because he had 'broken his parole, seduced the daughter of his custodian, whom he slew, and performed acts of piracy.' At the same time we should naturally expect that Abbé Rochon would see little good in the man, not a Frenchman, whose successful efforts to carry out his commission had been nullified by the jealousy of French officials in Mauritius."

Putting aside Benyowski's character as a man, our contention is that as an administrator the Polish adventurer altogether failed in carrying out the object of his mission—the foundation of a permanent colony in Madagascar.

When the French commissioners, MM. de Belcombe and Chevreau, visited Benyowski's establishment at Louisbourg in 1776, they asked the Governor to show them the foundations of the grand town which he had reported to the Minister of Marine as in course of construction; but there were no works visible, and merely a few wretched native huts represented the magnificent "Ville de la Plaine de Santé." Similarly Benyowski's vaunted citadel was found to be a "misérable petite batterie" of four three-pounders, whilst his "grand chemin de Louisbourg à Bombetoc" on inquiry proved to be the usual track across the mountains used by the Malagasy themselves.

Meantime the Isle of France and Bourbon were deprived of their supplies from Madagascar, on which they depended, and which had been consumed by Benyowski's followers, whilst the crops of rice had been destroyed and agriculture stopped by the sanguinary wars stirred up by this Tartuffe of Madagascar, one of the most audacious and plausible impostors that ever existed. Jealousy is hardly the term to apply to the righteous indignation with which the loyal and able Governor, M. Poivre, and his colleague, M. l'Abbé Rochon, viewed the outrageous conduct of Benyowski in Madagascar, by which the hitherto friendly relations between the French and the native tribes were endangered, whilst the destruction of the stores of provisions destined for the Mascarene islands naturally caused them serious apprehensions.

#### THE SPRING PUBLISHING SEASON.

MESSRS. CASSELL'S list of announcements for the spring season includes 'After London; or, Wild England,' by Mr. Richard Jefferies, an attempt to depict the condition of England after it has relapsed into barbarism; 'About Going to Law,' by Mr. A. J. Williams, a series of 'Hints to Honest Citizens'; 'The Dutch School of Painting,' by M. H. Havard, a volume of the "Fine-Art Library"; a uniform edition of Dr. Cunningham Geikie's works; 'The Making of the Home,' by Mrs. S. A. Barnett; 'The London and North-Western Railway Official Guide'; 'A Manual of Comparative Anatomy and Physiology,' by Prof. Jeffrey Bell; and two new clinical handbooks—'Diseases of the Tongue,' by Mr. Butlin, and 'Surgical Diseases of Children,' by Mr. E. Owen. The same firm also announce a cheap edition, in monthly parts, of Prof. Ebers's work on Egypt.

#### Literary Gossip.

MR. MURRAY will publish in a few days a popular edition of the Princess Alice's

letters to Her Majesty. To this edition will be prefixed a new and original memoir of the princess by her sister Princess Christian. This memoir is in the form of a continuous narrative, and will contain extracts, hitherto unpublished, from the diary of Her Majesty, and an account of the Princess Alice's last illness, written by Miss Macbean, who was her Royal Highness's constant attendant to the last.

MISS CHRISTINA ROSSETTI is about to publish another volume through the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. It is to be entitled 'Time Flies: a Reading Diary.' It will contain an entry, of one kind or another, for every day of the year, adjusted in a general sense to the Church festivals and black-letter days. The subject-matter, however, is of an extremely miscellaneous kind, including discursive remarks, anecdotes, personal reminiscences, &c. It will form a volume of some three hundred pages, and may be published in the course of the spring.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & CO. will shortly publish a volume of brief stories and poems by Mr. William Black, which will take its name from the first story, 'The Wise Women of Inverness.'

MESSRS. LONGMAN will shortly publish the new volume of lyrics by Miss Jean Ingelow which has been long looked for. The following are the titles of some of the poems that will be included: 'Rosamund,' 'Echo and the Ferry,' 'Preludes to a Penny Reading,' 'Kismet,' 'Dora,' 'Speranza.'

MESSRS. BELL & SONS will publish the sixth edition of Mr. Coventry Patmore's 'Angel in the House' immediately after Easter; this issue will be followed shortly by a second collective edition of Mr. Patmore's poems.

It has been definitely decided to purchase two adjoining houses in Kensington Square for the accommodation of the ladies' department of King's College. A considerable sum will still have to be raised, and it is hoped the public may contribute warmly to support this effort to provide for the higher education of women. The entries this term are very good. The total number is 500.

PROF. WARD is going to publish 'The Tale of Troy' (scenes from the Iliad and Odyssey of Homer) as performed at Cromwell House in 1883, and 'The Story of Orestes' (from the Orestean trilogy of Eschylus), together with a pianoforte arrangement of the music, vocal and instrumental, specially composed by Messrs. Otto Goldschmidt, Malcolm Lawson, Walter Parratt, and Prof. W. H. Monk, Mus. Doc. Mr. Walter Crane has undertaken to supervise the illustrations of the book; and in addition to the drawings furnished by him, there will be reproductions of drawings and paintings by Sir Frederic Leighton, Mr. E. J. Poynter, Mr. G. F. Watts, Mr. Frederick Sandys, and Prof. P. H. De la Motte. The volume will be a folio, and will be issued to subscribers only, at the price of three guineas. The profits on the sale will be devoted to the building fund of the ladies' department of King's College, London. The names of subscribers should be sent to Prof. G. C. Warr, King's College, Strand, W.C.; or to Miss Schmitz, 5, Observ-

vatory Avenue, Kensington; or to Messrs. Marcus Ward & Co.

THE sermons lately preached at the Temple Church on the occasion of its seventh centenary by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Dean of Llandaff, and the Rev. Alfred Ainger, will, at the request of the Benchers of the Inner and Middle Temple, be published in a volume by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., to serve as a permanent memorial of so interesting a celebration.

THE same publishers have in the press some lectures on Carlyle lately delivered in Edinburgh by Prof. Masson.

A SERIES of thirteen original letters addressed by Dean Swift to John Barber, Alderman and Lord Mayor of London, will be offered for sale at Sotheby's during the coming month. They have all been published, but not very correctly, by Scott, and it is desirable that they should be carefully collated for any future edition of the Dean's works. They form an interesting series, not only in their consecution, but in their character. To no one did Swift write more affectionately than to his "dear old friend," his "dear, good old friend in the best and worst of times," his "dear and constant friend," John Barber, and the tokens of friendship he received from the worthy alderman were among the few consolations of the Dean's declining years. The letters run on to the time when his mind was already betraying symptoms of the approaching calamity, and as part of the few records of Swift's last words they possess a peculiar interest.

THE Clarendon Press will publish immediately after Easter the third and fourth volumes of Mr. Thomas Hodgkin's work, 'Italy and her Invaders.' They cover the period from 476 to 553, and form a history of the establishment and overthrow of the Ostrogothic power in Italy. In the earlier volume the life of the young Theodoric at Constantinople and his varying relations of friendship and hostility to the Eastern Empire are described at some length. The execution of Boethius and Symmachus is examined with some minuteness, and a short abstract is given of Boethius's great work on the consolation of philosophy. After the death of Theodoric the scene shifts to Constantinople, and a slight sketch is given of the internal administration of Justinian and the early exploits of Belisarius. The third volume closes with the death of Amalasuntha and the formal declaration of war between Justinian and her murderer. The fourth volume relates the events from 535 to 553, and is mainly founded on the history of the Gothic war by Procopius.

THE memoir of Stratford Canning, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, in 'The Dictionary of National Biography,' will be written by Mr. Stanley Lane-Poole, who will have the advantage of the use of important documents, partly of an autobiographical character, which have been kindly placed at his disposal for the purpose by the family of Lord Stratford.

THE April number of the *Law Quarterly Review* will contain, among other contributions, articles on the history of the Law Reports, by Lord Justice Lindley; on early English Equity, by Judge O. W.

Holmes, jun., of Massachusetts; on the text of Bracton, by Prof. Paul Vinogradoff; and on some unpublished letters of Bentham, by M. Ernest Nys, of Brussels. It will also publish the late J. Leycester Adolphus's eclogue of the Northern Circuit, in which Lewin and Addison, Crown lawyer and special pleader, "sing of their respective trades in turn." A digest of cases, by Mr. Edward Manson, is published as an appendix to this number, and will be regularly continued. Among the expected contributors to the July number are Lord Justice Bowen, Mr. A. Cohen, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Melville M. Bigelow, Mr. E. S. Roscoe, and Mr. F. W. Maitland.

REFERENCE was made in these columns on October 11th to an Anglo-Indian record of services which Mr. Charles Prinsep, the statistical reporter at the India Office, was engaged in preparing. The work has since been somewhat modified in its scope. The first volume, however, is now completed, and will be published by Messrs. Trübner & Co. on the 10th prox. This volume refers to the Madras Presidency, but while giving a record of services from 1741 to 1858 of those who served on that establishment, it also contains a list of the governors-general, commanders-in-chief, judges, and other high authorities in the direction or control of the affairs of the East India Company. It may be hoped that the volumes relating to Bengal and Bombay will be produced without any unnecessary delay.

MRS. MACQUOID, the author of 'Patty,' has in the press a novel entitled 'Louisa,' which will be issued next month by Mr. Bentley.

WE regret to hear of the death of Mr. William Routledge, who was at one period a member of the firm of Messrs. George Routledge & Sons, from which he retired some years ago, taking up his residence at Sherborne in Dorsetshire.

EARLY next month a new weekly, entitled *Gossip*, may be expected. Lady Benedict, Mr. E. L. Blanchard, Dr. A. Carpenter, Rev. Sir George W. Cox, Bart., Miss Mary Hooper, Miss Jean Middlemass, Mrs. Fenwick Miller, Rev. J. G. Wood, and others have promised to contribute. Mr. Joseph Hughes, the editor of the *Practical Teacher*, will conduct this new venture.

DR. GORDON HAKE contributes to the April number of *Merry England* a poem on the death of his relative, General Gordon. The same number contains an essay on 'Selfishness,' from the pen of Cardinal Manning.

'A CLASSIFIED COLLECTION OF ENGLISH PROVERBS,' with their equivalents in nine European languages, by Mrs. Mawr, of Bucharest, is in the press, and will be published shortly by Mr. Elliot Stock.

THE new number of the *Contemporary Review* promises an unusually strong programme. Mr. Matthew Arnold sends 'A Christmas Meditation'; M. de Laveleye, a criticism of 'The State versus the Man'; and Mr. Herbert Spencer a rejoinder to the same. Sir Frederic Goldsmid writes on the Afghan frontier, and Sir John Lubbock and Capt. Cameron on the Soudan. There are also articles by Mr. R. L. Stevenson, 'On Style in Literature'; Prof. Dowden, 'On Shakespeare's Heroines'; and Mr. William

Fowler, M.P., 'On the Present Low Prices and their Causes.' The monthly paper 'On Contemporary Life and Thought' takes Greece for its subject, and is written by Mr. Claude Vincent.

UNDER the title of 'Mawson's Obits' the April *Genealogist* will contain a most curious collection of births, marriages, deaths, and burials, ranging from 1720 to 1729, derived from a MS. preserved in the Heralds' College. The entries are similar to, but not identical with, Le Neve's 'Memoranda in Heraldry.' Among other articles may be noticed two by Mr. Joseph Bain, the editor of the 'Calendar of Documents relating to Scotland,' the one entitled 'Sir William Stewart of Jedworth, Knight, Ancestor of the Earl of Galloway,' the other 'A Scottish Royal Tradition Examined.' General Wrottesley analyzes the contents of the valuable 'Bracton's Note-Book,' to which attention has recently been directed by Prof. Vinogradoff's researches. Mr. Borlase, M.P., continues the 'History of the Borlase Family,' and a further instalment of an interesting 'Diary of Travel in 1647-8' is now given. This number will also include numerous marriage licences, funeral certificates, and extracts from parish registers.

THE first two volumes of 'The Women of Europe in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries,' by Mrs. Napier Higgins, which are published this week by Messrs. Hurst & Blackett, will be followed by several more. The author is the wife of Mr. Napier Higgins, Q.C.

IT is proposed to establish a hall at Cardiff for the lady students attending the University College of South Wales. By this means a university training will be offered, it is hoped, to women at a cost of only 50*l.* per annum; 10*l.* being the sessional tuition fee, and 40*l.* the boarding fee.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, M.P., will shortly commence in the *Weekly Echo* an Irish story, under the title 'Dead Man's Island.'

LOVERS of Rabelais may be pleased to learn that at a recent sale of precious books in Paris a copy of the 'Œuvres,' with the remarks and criticisms of Le Duchat, and the plates of Picart (Amsterdam, J. F. Bernard, 1741), realized 6,450 fr. 'Le Roman Comique,' by Scarron (Paris, Didot, An iv.), 3 vols., figures by Le Barbier, was sold for 1,300 fr.; 'Les Amours du Chevalier de Faublas,' by Douvet (Paris, chez l'auteur, An iv.), gravures, 650 fr.; 'Les Amours Pastorales de Daphnis et Chloe,' traduction d'Amyot, Paris, 1718, gravures d'Audran, 1,455 fr.; 'Les Amours de Psyché et de Cupidon,' par La Fontaine (Paris, Didot, An iii.), figures de Moreau, &c., 1,530 fr.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has conferred on the Rev. J. Charles Cox the degree of Doctor of Laws,

"in recognition of the antiquarian knowledge and diligent research which he has expended in examining, arranging, and tabulating the valuable ancient muniments of the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield, as well as in the authorship and publication of well-known archaeological works." The degree was granted on the petition of the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield, endorsed by the Duke of Devonshire, the Bishop of Lichfield, the Lord Scarsdale, Right Hon. A. J. B. Beresford Hope, M.P., Sir John Maclean, Bart., Canon Greenwell, Dr.

Jessopp, Norroy King of Arms, and by many other archaeological and ecclesiastical authorities.

MR. EDWIN PEARS, of the Constantinople Bar, has applied himself for some years to the investigation of the history of the city, and particularly of the Byzantine epoch and of the capture by the Turks. He has now in the hands of a London publisher 'The Fall of Constantinople: being the Story of the Fourth Crusade.' This is not the only contribution we are likely to have on this subject, as it is understood that the learned historian Mr. Mijatovich is about to publish some discoveries he has lately made regarding the fall of Constantinople.

THE death of the Bishop of Lincoln not only deprives the Church of a pious and single-hearted divine, but makes the learned world poorer by the loss of a sound and able scholar. His edition of Theocritus was a capital piece of work, and his 'Athens and Attica' and his 'Greece, Pictorial, Descriptive, and Historical,' were books quite in advance of their time. In fact, for a Cambridge scholar to visit Greece was a daring feat in the thirties. His publication of 'The Correspondence of Richard Bentley' was a useful contribution to the history of learning. He retained his love of the classics to the end, and his last publication was a volume of 'Conjectural Emendations on Passages in Ancient Authors,' which we reviewed in September, 1884. His Biography of his uncle was injured by the fact that his sympathies were with the weaker side of the poet's nature rather than the stronger, and his huge Commentary on the Bible, though a work of immense labour and research, was quite prescientific.

A SENSATION has been caused in literary circles in the United States by the discovery that Charles Egbert Craddock, author of 'In the Tennessee Mountains,' and a frequent contributor to the *Atlantic Monthly*, is a lady. The sex of their contributor was not suspected by the publishers, by Mr. W. D. Howells when he edited the *Atlantic Monthly*, or by his successor, Mr. Aldrich. The writer turns out to be a Miss M. Murfree. 'In the Tennessee Mountains' has had a great success in the United States, where it is already in its ninth thousand. It is published in this country by Messrs. Longman.

THE death is announced from Washington of Mr. F. S. Drake, a son of a Boston antiquary and bookseller well known in his day. Mr. Drake published several works, of which the most useful was his 'Dictionary of American Biography.' He was revising this work at the time of his decease, says the New York *Publishers' Weekly*.

MESSRS. WARD, LOCK & CO. are going to bring out a new edition of Haydn's 'Dictionary of Dates,' revised by Mr. Vincent, of the Royal Institution.

A MIDDLESEX COUNTY RECORD SOCIETY has been started under influential auspices. The records of the county date from 1549, and have lately been calendared down to the death of George III. by Mr. Jeaffreson.

THE Principal of the Aberystwyth College is going to bring out a commentary on the First Epistle to the Corinthians, intended primarily for Welsh students.

## SCIENCE

*A Treatise on the Stability of Ships.* By Sir E. J. Reed, K.C.B., F.R.S. With Diagrams and Tables. (Griffin & Co.)

No general work upon the stability of ships, Sir E. J. Reed states, exists in the English language, although the subject has, of course, been partially handled in treatises of a comprehensive character as to shipbuilding. Great progress, however, has been lately made both in the science and in the practice of naval architecture. In the present century as well as in the last French investigators have taken a leading part in the extension of this branch of science. The names of Risbec, Leclert, Guyon, of the late MM. Dargnies and Ferranti, of Daynard and Bertin, of Bouguer, and Dupin, on the Continent, of Atwood, Barnes, Denny, Inglis, Elgars, White, and Reynolds in this country, are entitled to honourable mention; and in fine "this volume will, at least, serve to show that there is nothing in the circumstances of either mercantile or war ships to hinder a complete knowledge of their stability, under all probable conditions, being ascertained and formulated." In the painstaking book before us Sir E. J. Reed has brought in much detail before the reader the various modes in which the above-named and some other writers have regarded the theory of stability.

It is impossible within the limits of a review to give even a cursory abstract of nineteen chapters full of minute technical details. Although the author is not gifted with that rare capacity for making simple an abstruse subject which is more frequently to be found among French scientific writers than among those of other countries, it is instructive to follow him as he steadily plods on from the primary conditions of flotation and stability to the "general case of a body of irregular form, like a ship." More interesting to those who have enough knowledge of the subject to value its illustration in graphic form is such a comparison as that drawn on p. 122 between the stability of the Captain and that of the Monarch, to which subject the author returns in chap. xvii. It would, however, have greatly added to the value of figures 84, 85, 212, and 213, which show the respective curves of statical stability for the two vessels, if cross sections of the ships had been given. The Captain, we are told on p. 345, had a freeboard of only  $\frac{1}{2}$  ft., the Monarch is credited, p. 346, with 24 ft. 3 in. draught. We have to turn back to p. 95 to find that the mean draught of the Captain was 25 ft. 4 in. But something more than this—familiar, no doubt, as it was to the writer—should be put under the eye of the reader, in order to explain at a glance the very interesting and instructive difference in the stability of the two vessels. Up to an inclination of  $16^\circ$  the Captain had slightly the advantage of the Monarch in statical stability, as shown by the approximating curves. But the maximum stability of the Captain is attained at an angle of  $21^\circ$ , where the righting lever is only  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches (that of the Monarch at the same angle measuring about  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches). From this inclination the stability of the Captain rapidly declines, and entirely disappears at an inclination of  $54\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ .

The Monarch, on the contrary, increases in its stability with each increase in the angle of inclination up to  $40^\circ$ , when the length of righting lever is  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches, or double the maximum of that of the Captain; and at the angle of  $54\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ , at which the latter vessel would inevitably turn turtle, the Monarch has still a righting power indicated by 17 inches of leverage. "The enormous difference," says Sir E. J. Reed,

"between the statical stability of the two ships arises solely from the one ship having a low freeboard, and the other a high freeboard. As we have seen, the stability of the low freeboard ship compares favourably with that of the high freeboard ship up to an inclination of  $16^\circ$ ; but it is precisely at that inclination that the edge of the Captain's deck begins to be immersed, and to this fact is due her decrease of stability compared with the Monarch as the inclination increases."

True, simple, and clear as is the above statement, it suggests the query, What sort of intelligence could have presided at the Admiralty when the design of the Captain was adopted? It is not necessary to be a mathematical scholar or an experienced shipwright to understand that if the edge of the deck of a vessel is cut down to near the line of flotation disaster is pretty sure to attend on wind and wave. It is enough to watch one of the low flat lighters that helplessly float up or down the Thames as the tide turns to understand this. Not a schoolboy who has ferried himself over a stream in a brewer's vat but has a lively instinctive perception of the small righting leverage of his vessel—the essential plan of which, however, as applied to the notorious Russian *fiasco* the Livadia, was, if we remember rightly, stoutly supported by Sir E. J. Reed. It is clear that either good books, or some means of attaining to the level of ordinary common sense, must have been grievously deficient at the Admiralty when the Captain was built; and it is greatly to be desired that the present treatise may prove to some degree effective in averting more costly official failures of a like unpardonable nature.

## ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

ANOTHER small planet was discovered by Dr. R. Luther at Düsseldorf on the 14th inst. It is of the eleventh magnitude, and will reckon as No. 247.

Dr. Palisa has given the name Sita to the planet No. 244, which was discovered by him at Vienna on the 14th of October last. No. 246, discovered by M. Borrelly at Marseilles on the 6th inst., is the thirteenth planet found by him (not the twelfth, as we stated last week), the first being Dike, No. 99, discovered on May 29th, 1868. No. 245, discovered by Mr. Pogson at Madras on February 6th, was observed at Vienna on the 9th, and at Berlin on the 12th, of March. It is extremely faint, the brightness being less than that of star of the twelfth magnitude.

M. Raoul Gautier has, according to promise, circulated an ephemeris of Tempel's first periodical comet, discovered by him on April 3rd, 1867, and afterwards found to be moving in an elliptic orbit with period of little more than six years. According to M. Gautier's calculations the perihelion passage will this year be delayed by the effect of planetary perturbation until about September 25th, but the comet will make its nearest approach to the earth at the end of the present month. This distance, however, amounts to 1.51 in terms of the earth's mean distance from the sun, and it is very doubtful whether the comet will become visible, even with the

most powerful telescopes. Its place for to-night (March 28th) is R.A.  $11^{\text{h}} 14^{\text{m}}$ , N.P.D.  $71^\circ 14'$ , on the boundary of the constellations Leo and Coma Berenices, and passing from the latter into the former.

The volume of the *Connaissance des Temps* for 1886 has recently been published under the superintendence of M. Loewy, who remarks that this is the 208th issue of an ephemeris which has appeared without any interruption since the publication of the first volume by Picard in 1679. It is well known, however, that very extensive alterations, additions, and improvements have at various times been effected, especially since the almanac was placed under the direction of the Bureau des Longitudes in 1795. Within the last few years these have received further important developments, which are continued in the volume before us. In 1885 and 1886 the moon's right ascension and declination are given for the times of transit over the meridian of places at longitudes differing by successive hours from that of Paris; and in 1886 her longitude, latitude, parallax, and semi-diameter are given for every six hours of mean time at Paris. The catalogue of places of fundamental stars has been considerably enlarged, and the list of occultations of stars, with the elements of the stars occulted, has been extended so as to include, like the *Nautical Almanac*, all stars down to the sixth magnitude. The data used in the calculation of the lunar and planetary places appear to be the same in 1886 as in 1885. A very useful feature in the *Connaissance des Temps* is the large table of geographical longitudes and latitudes of places for which these elements are known with tolerable accuracy, and additions are made to the list in each successive year.

## SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—March 19.—The Treasurer in the chair.—The following papers were read: "On Transfer-resistance in Electrolytic and Voltaic Cells," by Dr. Gore.—"Note on Rev. Robert Harley's Paper, 'Prof. Malet's Classes of Invariants identified with Sir James Cockle's Criticoids,'" by Prof. J. C. Malet,—and "On the Paralytic Secretion of Saliva," by Mr. J. N. Langley.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—March 18.—The Rev. S. M. Mayhew in the chair.—Mr. E. Walford exhibited an old engraving, by Theodore Maes, of the battle of the Boyne. It showed the whole of the local surroundings, having been drawn on the spot at the time. King James's army is shown flying.—Mr. Loftus Brock described a beautiful example of Etruscan faience ware.—Mr. C. Brent exhibited some Arabic inscriptions on cornelian and sard, and Capt. M. Taylor a small dial ring found at Corwen.—The Rev. S. M. Mayhew produced a large collection of ancient objects mostly found in the City in some of the recent excavations. Among these the following may be specially mentioned: a wine vessel of peculiar form, found in Abchurch Lane; some bone pins from a Roman cemetery at Spitalfields, one having an iron point and another being formed of a porcupine's quill; a Roman cork of bronze, enamelled, of great beauty, found near Throgmorton Avenue.—The first paper was by the Rev. J. Edking, read in his absence by Mr. W. H. Rylands, "On Ancient Navigation in the Indian Ocean." The paper treated of the references to the early intercourse between China and the ancient world in the little-known Chinese writers, and the introduction of foreign plants by traders. Jessamine was thus introduced before the Christian era. Henna was imported 1400 years ago, and African plants were also well known, there having been an Arab colony then in Canton. The uncle of Mohammed lived there, and after the death of the prophet returned there to die. There were relations between the kings of Babylon and the emperors of China many hundreds of years before Christ. The divisions of the stars into constellations were known in China in the eighth and seventh centuries B.C., and the earth was known to be round 700 years B.C.—A discussion followed, in which Messrs. Morgan, Rylands, Wright, and Walford took part.—Mr. J. T. Irvine read a description of the opening of a barrow at Croyland, Lincolnshire, in which were found some Roman remains, and also some prehistoric flint implements. With these were a great many objects of hard-baked clay similar to the teeth of a harrow, and the opinion was expressed

that they had been used for a similar purpose. Articles of a like kind have been found near Peterborough.

**NUMISMATIC.**—March 20.—Dr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. Brown and Mr. E. E. Oliver were elected Members.—Mr. H. Symonds exhibited a baronial coin of the Earl of Warwick struck at London.—Dr. W. Frazer sent for exhibition a silver medal of Suleyman I., the son of Abbas II. of Persia, A.D. 1666–1694, similar to a specimen first described by Mr. E. Leggett, of Kurnachie, in the *Numismatic Chronicle*, 1884, part iii.—Mr. H. Montagu exhibited a variety of the groat of Henry VIII.'s fifth coinage, issued in the thirty-seventh year of his reign, reading REDD, CVIQ' Q' SVM EST.—The Ven. Archdeacon Pownall exhibited, by permission of the Ven. Archdeacon Thicknesse, a bronze medal by Christophorus Hieronymus of Mantua, struck in honour of Alfonso V., King of Aragon, Naples, and Sicily (1416–1458), surnamed "the Magnificent," similar to one described in Armand, "Médailliers Italiens," vol. i. pp. 30–31 : obverse, ALFONSVS REX REGIBVS IMPERANS ET BELLORVM VICTOR; reverse, CORONANT VICTOREM REGNI MARC ET BELLONA.—Mr. A. E. Copp exhibited a Hamburg century-medal in gold, dated 1801.—Mr. B. V. Head read a paper, by Mr. T. W. Greene, on the medals of the Hanna family by Leone Leoni, and exhibited specimens of the medals of Martin Hanna, Daniel Hanna, John Hanna, and Paul Hanna, all apparently cast about the middle of the sixteenth century.—Dr. Evans read a paper on a find of Anglo-Saxon coins in Meath.

**LINNEAN.**—March 19.—Sir J. Lubbock, Bart., President, in the chair.—Dr. J. Grieve and Mr. C. T. Drury were elected Fellows.—Dr. G. J. Romanes exhibited two human crania from South Africa ; one was that of an aboriginal bushman from Kruis river, Congo district, Gudtshoora, obtained through Dr. Stroud.—Mr. J. G. Baker drew attention to a specimen of a supposed hybrid between the two genera *Aloe* and *Gasteria*, and grown in the Glasgow Botanic Gardens. He also showed a curious new fern, *Polyodium (Nephrolepis) polydactylon*, Hance, discovered by Mr. W. Hancock in the island of Formosa.—A paper was read 'On New Hydroids from the Collection of Miss Gatty' by Prof. Aliman. Thirty-eight species, distributed among twelve genera, are described as new. Among these the new plumularian genus *Podocladium* is very remarkable, not only by the possession of both fixed and movable nematopore—in accordance with which, like *Heteroplon* of the Challenger collection, it holds a position intermediate between the typical Eleutheroporean and Statoolean genera—but by the fact that every hydrocladum is supported on a cylindrical jointed peduncle. Among other remarkable and significant forms is one to which the author gives the name of *Thuiaria heteromorpha*. In this are found combined on the same hydrophyton no fewer than three morphological types which, if occurring separately, would be justly regarded as representing three genera, *Thuiaria*, *Dermoscyphus*, and *Sertularia*. Notwithstanding this singular combination of forms, the author does not believe that the characters of the specimen justify the construction of a new genus ; and he regards the generic position of the hydroid as determined by that one of the three forms which most decidedly prevails in it. *Thuiaria heteromorpha* thus shows in a very marked way the indefiniteness of the boundaries between different zoological groups, and calls to mind a phenomenon known to occur among plants, as in certain epiphytic orchids, in which the same stem has been observed to carry flowers referable to several generic types.—There followed a paper by Capt. W. Armit, "On Plants met with by him on Moresby, Basilisk, O'Neill, and Margaret Islands, South-Eastern New Guinea," in which a list of over 130 species is given.

**ZOOLOGICAL.**—March 17.—Prof. W. H. Flower, President, in the chair.—The Secretary read a report on the additions made to the menagerie during February, and called attention to a viverrine phalanger (*Phalangista viverrina*) from Australia, new to the collection ; to an isabelline lynx (*Felis isabellina*) ; to two brown pelicans (*Pelecanus fuscus*) ; and to a fine living example of a bird-spider (*Mygale fasciata*) from Burmah.—Mr. Sclater exhibited and made remarks on a duck shot on Lord Bolton's estate in Yorkshire which appeared to be a singular variety of the scaup (*Fuligula marila*).—Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier exhibited and made remarks on a pair of abnormal deer's antlers obtained in India.—Papers were read : by Dr. F. H. B. Guillemand, on the ornithology of the Sulu Archipelago, showing that the *ornis* of that group is purely Philippine, and that the line of separation between the latter archipelago and Borneo lies between the islands of Sibutu and Tawi-tawi ; Dr. Guillemand added fifty species to the list of birds hitherto known from Sulu, two of which were new to science,—from Mr.

T. Kirsch, of the Royal Zoological Museum, Dresden, on some new butterflies obtained by the collectors of Mr. Riedel in Timor-Laut.—from Prof. W. Nation, on the Peruvian cliff-swallow (*Petrochelidon rupestris*) ;—from the Rev. H. S. Gorham, containing a revision of the phytophagous Coleoptera of the Japanese fauna, of the sub-families *Cassidinae* and *Hispinae*,—from Lieut.-Col. C. Swinhoe, the second of his series of papers on the Lepidoptera of Bonny and the Deccan, which treated of the first portion of the Heterocera,—and by Dr. Hans Gadow, on the anatomical differences observed during an examination of examples of the three species of *rhina* (*Rh. americana*, *macrorhyncha*, and *darwini*).

**ENTOMOLOGICAL.**—March 4.—The President in the chair.—Four new Members were elected.—Mr. T. R. Billups exhibited specimens of *Ceraleptus lividus*, Stultus, from Chobham.—The Rev. W. W. Fowler exhibited the unique specimen of *Cerylon atratum*, Reitt, and specimens of an Indian *Cassidion* in which the colours were preserved.—Dr. Sharp remarked on the colouring matter of the Cassididae.—Mr. Fowler likewise exhibited a microscopical movable stage suited to entomological purposes.—Mr. W. F. Kirby exhibited a variety of *Spilosoma lubricipeda*, Esp., which had been found in the British Museum (Natural History), South Kensington.—Mr. A. G. Butler communicated a few observations touching Mr. De Nicéville's recent suggestions on seasonal dimorphism in the Lepidoptera, which gave rise to some discussion.—Dr. D. Sharp remarked on the recent discovery of two different forms of spermatozoa in *Helops striatus*, Fonsc.—The following papers were read : 'A Monograph of British Brachidae,' Part I., by the Rev. T. A. Marshall.—'Descriptions of New Species of Languriidae,' by the Rev. W. W. Fowler,—and 'On the Discovery of a Species of the Neuropterous Family Nemopteridae in South America, with General Considerations regarding the Family,' by Mr. R. McLachlan.

**METEOROLOGICAL.**—March 18.—The Society opened its sixth annual exhibition of instruments. This exhibition is devoted to sunshine recorders and solar and terrestrial radiation instruments.—At the meeting of the Society the President, Mr. R. H. Scott, read a paper giving a brief account of the various instruments and arrangements to be found in the exhibition for the purposes of recording solar and terrestrial radiation and the duration of sunshine, both in regard of its light and its heat, the last named being obtained by means of the sunshine recorders, which are now pretty generally used. He exhibited twelve monthly maps, showing the percentage proportion of hours of recorded sunshine to the hours the sun was above the horizon in the various districts of the United Kingdom. He stated that the features which strike any one on examining the maps of sunshine, which are, for the most part, for the last five summers and for the last four winters, up to January, 1885, are : First, the broad fact that the extreme south-western and southern stations are the sunniest, as has already frequently been pointed out. Jersey is undoubtedly the most favoured of our stations in this particular. Second, that in the late autumn and winter Ireland is much sunnier than Great Britain, Dublin having absolutely the highest percentage of possible duration of sunshine in November and December, and being only equalled by Jersey in January. The north-east of Scotland is also exceptionally bright, as the station, Aberdeen, lies to leeward of the Grampians. In April the line of 40 per cent. of possible duration takes in Jersey, Cornwall, Falmouthshire, the Isle of Man, and the whole of Ireland except Armagh. The absolute maximum of the year occurs in May, and the amount rises to 50 per cent. (nearly to 60 in Jersey) over the district just mentioned as enjoying 40 per cent. in April. In June there is a falling off, which is continued into July, and even into August in the Western Highlands. In the south of England, however, a second maximum occurs in August, the figure for Jersey rising to 50 per cent. In September Ireland shows a falling off, and the greatest degree of cloudiness is in Lincolnshire. In October the Midland Counties of England are the worst off. In November the line of 40 per cent. encloses two districts—one Dublin, already mentioned, the other the Eastern Counties (Cambridge and Beccles).

**INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—March 24.—Sir F. J. Bramwell, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Electrical Regulation of the Speed of Steam Engines and of other Motors for driving Dynamos,' by Mr. P. W. Willans.

**ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.**—March 24.—Mr. F. Galton, President, in the chair.—The election of the following gentlemen was announced : Mr. F. D. Mocatta, Hon. C. Duncombe, and Mr. J. G. Frazer.—A paper was read by Mr. A. J. Duffield 'On the Inhabitants of New Ireland and its Archipelago. The author first dealt with the assumption that the

inhabitants of these islands are the descendants of remote, but superior races ; that they retain inherited powers which have become weak by lack of use ; and that these moral and intellectual powers can be easily restored. The food of the natives is chiefly vegetable, but they now and then eat the flesh of the small native swine, the opossum, and poultry, which is abundant. The climate is humid and unhealthy ; the people poor in flesh, small in size, and light in weight. Their usual colour is a dark brown, but they are a mixed race ; the hair is crisp and glossy. The tattooing and cuttings on the flesh are confined to the women and the head men. They speak a language which is at once musical and familiar, and in which is found a fair sprinkling of Arabic and Spanish words.—Mr. R. B. Carter and Mr. C. Roberts read papers 'On Vision Testing.'

**HISTORICAL.**—March 19.—Mr. Alderman Hurst in the chair.—Mr. J. F. Palmer read a paper 'On the Development of the Fine Arts under the Puritans, in which he endeavoured to show that the influence of Puritanism upon the fine arts was really beneficial. He held that, although in all nations the origin of art may be traced to religion or superstition, it does not attain its full development until it becomes independent. Not only the drama, but also painting, and architecture entered upon a new era during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and this at a time when the Puritan idea was rapidly becoming the leading mental feature throughout the country. Among the chief Puritans themselves many were ardent and intelligent supporters both of painting and music, while all the advanced Puritans of the Independent type were in favour of complete liberty of worship, and showed a far more liberal spirit towards the arts than the Presbyterian section, who alone were responsible for all acts of iconoclasm. Cromwell himself saved from destruction the cartoons of Raffaele, appointed a committee to establish a college of music, and permitted Sir W. Davenport to commence a series of dramatic performances.

**ARISTOTELIAN.**—March 23.—Mr. S. H. Hodgson, President, in the chair.—The consideration of Schopenhauer's 'The World as Will and Idea' was resumed, the discussion being opened with a paper by Mrs. Brooksbank.

**EDUCATION.**—March 23.—The Rev. J. Bedford in the chair.—A paper was read by Miss R. Walker on the subject of 'Reproductive Imagination, or Memory.'

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.	
MON.	Society of Arts, 8.—'Curtains and Furniture,' Lecture IV., Mr. J. H. Pollett (Cancer Lecture).
	Chemical, 5.—'Anniversary Meeting.'
TUES.	Society of Arts, 8.—'Kiluan-jaro and the surrounding District of Equatorial Africa,' Mr. H. H. Johnston.
	Civil Engineers, 8.—Discussion on Mr. Willans's Paper 'The Application of the Principle of Speed of Steam Engines and of other Motors for driving Dynamos.'
WED.	Shorthand, 8.—'Short-hand Spelling and Shorthand as a Hand-writing,' Mr. A. James.
	Brit. Archaeological Association, 8.—'Notes on Ancient Glass,' Dr. A. C. Parker.
THURS.	Linnean, 8.—'The Coast Flora of Gapyeong, South Italy,' Mr. H. Groves ; 'Studies in Vegetable Biology : Observations on the Continuity of Protoplasm and on Rosanoff's Crystals in the Endospore Cells of <i>Monotropus glaucescens</i> ,' Mr. S. Moore.
	Mathematical, 8.—'On an Equation in Matrices,' Dr. T. Muir ; 'On Eliminants and Associated Roots,' Mr. E. B. Elliott.

### Science Gossip.

We regret to say that Mr. Walter White, after more than forty years of faithful and laborious service, has retired from the assistant-secretaryship of the Royal Society.

MR. STANFORD will publish immediately after Easter the Government Survey Map of Cyprus, which had been nearly completed by Major Kitchener when he was ordered to Dongola last year. The map is on sixteen sheets, is drawn to a scale of one inch to a mile, and will bring before the public for the first time with clearness and accuracy both the political and physical geography of this interesting "place of arms."

SIR FREDERICK BRAMWELL is appointed chairman of a committee, and Dr. W. Pole as secretary, to consider plans for properly housing the national collections belonging to the Science Department.

MR. THOMAS TURNER read before the Birmingham Philosophical Society recently a paper on the phenomena of eutectia (easy melting), as it has been named by Dr. Guthrie. The temperature of liquefaction of a eutectic substance is lower than the temperature of either, or any, of the metallic constituents of an alloy.

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A MEETING in connexion with the Marine Biological Association is to be held at the rooms of the Society of Arts on April 13th. Cambridge has undertaken to raise 500*l.* for the station of the Association, and nearly the whole of this amount has been subscribed. The Association has nearly 6,000*l.* in hand, but requires some 4,000*l.* yet before building. A generous donor might now take the work in hand and make up the sum required.

MR. JOHN BROWN, Professor of Coal Mining at the Mason Science College, Birmingham, has been compelled to resign his chair in consequence of his professional engagements preventing his lecturing on the specified days in each week of the respective terms.

THE Report of the Council of the Scottish Meteorological Society, read at the Society's half-yearly meeting on Monday last, mentioned that hourly observations had been taken during the winter at the Ben Nevis Observatory, except during fourteen hours of the night between the 21st and 22nd of February, when a severe storm prevented a light being carried outside to read the thermometers. The cost of the erection and maintenance of the observatory to the end of January had been 5,935*l.*, or 32*s.* beyond the sum received for the purpose. At the meeting a paper by Mr. Omond, the superintendent of the observatory, on the formation of snow crystals from fog—a common phenomenon on the Ben—was read. It is pleasant to learn that two gentlemen who ascended the mountain during this week found the observers in good health and spirits, although the buildings were almost entirely buried in snow.

PROF. DUNKER, of Marburg, a well-known mineralogist and paleontologist, is dead.

M. BECQUEREL fils exhibited in his lectures at the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers a loud-speaking telephone, which was heard without difficulty throughout the amphitheatre.

M. J. RAYNAUD brought before the Académie des Sciences on the 3rd of March his means of counteracting or diminishing the dangers of the extra current in dynamo-electric machines in the case of rupture in the exterior circuit. It is not easy to make the method described intelligible within our limits of space; but this paper may be readily consulted in the *Comptes Rendus*.

DR. J. WILSING, of Potsdam, publishes in the *Sitzungsberichte der Berliner Akad. der Wissenschaften* for January a paper 'On the Application of the Pendulum to the Determination of the Mean Density of the Earth.' With carefully constructed apparatus Dr. Wilsing has obtained some new results; Repsold of Hamburg is constructing some new apparatus for him, with which he hopes to continue his observations in the Astrophysical Observatory and to bring them to a conclusion.

HERR RUDOLPH JALL, the geologist of Saarbrücken, in Rhine-Prussia, who has made a special study of volcanic eruptions, states that colliery explosions coincide with or follow closely upon earthquakes. He says March 30th, June 12th, July 12th, and September 9th and 24th will be dangerous all over Europe. We are not informed upon what data he founds his warning, but the days named should be noticed.

## FINE ARTS

THE GROSSENOY GALLERY.—THE WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN from Ten till Six. With a Collection of the Works of Thomas Gainsborough, R.A., and of Drawings by the late Richard Doyle.—Admission, 1*s.*—WILL CLOSE Saturday, March 28th.

FREDERICK WALKER, A.R.A.—A LOAN COLLECTION of DRAWINGS of this Painter is NOW ON VIEW at Mr. Dunthorne's Gallery, the Rembrandt Head, 5, Vigo-street, W.—Catalogue, One Shilling, including Admission.

THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORÉ'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Doré Gallery, 35, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Praetorium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other great Pictures. From Ten to Six Daily.—Admission, 1*s.*

*The Pictorial Press: its Origin and Progress.*  
By Mason Jackson. Illustrated. (Hurst & Blackett.)

MR. JACKSON has turned to new account a series of papers published some years since in the *Illustrated London News*, and by continuing the subject to a later date he has added considerably to their bulk and value. The chapters originally published were, however, obviously not intended to illustrate "the pictorial press" at all. They were rather designed to show some of the popular vagaries, passions, and prejudices of the last three centuries by means of extracts from the broadsides, pamphlets, and what not, which attained prodigious circulation and much influence, and to enliven the subject, a fascinating one of itself, by facsimiles of the most expressive and witty woodcuts and engravings which accompanied the broadsides.

We do not imagine that it was within Mr. Jackson's purview to reproduce any of the innumerable prints proper—works of Gaywood, Hollar, Gravelot, Rowlandson, and others—with which the public in Stuart and Hanoverian days were flooded. Still less does it seem to have been part of his scheme to copy the grim Dutch plates of the early designers who illustrated English history; the stupid German prints of another sort, but similar object; or even the brilliant and picturesque etchings of Romeyn de Hooghe, Loggan, and their comrades who fought for or against William III.

The labours of Hawkins, Haviland Burke, and the British Museum cataloguer who has succeeded them—labours carried on for more than sixty years with the aid of the resources of the nation—seem to be unknown to Mr. Jackson, who has not mentioned them, nor bestowed a word on the accomplished compiler of the 'Caricature History of the Georges.' The Catalogue of Satirical Prints in the British Museum would now and then have helped Mr. Jackson; for instance, with regard to "the curious copper-plate at the head of the *Grub-street Journal*" for October 26th, 1732, which is not explained on p. 193. It is Satirical Print No. 1898. This journal is not "the earliest example of a newspaper employing the expensive process of copper-plate engraving for illustrations, and printing the plate in the body of its pages." Some of the satires of the Civil War period, now preserved among Thomason's Tracts, had illustrations of this kind, and newspapers proper had contained them earlier than 1732. Again, 'The Art of Trimming Emblematically Displayed' (Satirical Print No. 1932) has no "satirical allegory." It is a woodcut in the *Grub-street Journal*, No. 200, October 25th, 1733. The cut refers to Eustace Budgell, Matthew Tindal (of Alverstoke, who translated Rapin into English), Stanislaus, King of Poland, the "Regimentary Poniatowski," and others. Budgell was accused of forging Tindal's will, and hence Pope wrote:—

Let Budgell charge low Grub Street on my quill,  
And write whater he please,—except my will.

To this the so-called "allegory" refers; see *Notes and Queries*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series, v. 489, 509. Broadsides and flying sheets giving news of a single event were frequently illustrated with copper-plate engravings or etchings. Mr. Jackson has supplied many curious

examples of this practice. Of woodcuts thus employed the name is legion; indeed, they long held the chief places among popular illustrations and are the true parents of the *Illustrated London News* and its rivals.

One of the most curious of this class has a modern application little expected by the author. It is called 'An Exact Diurnal of the Parliament of Ladys,' 1644, and its woodcut represents a senate of maids and matrons assembled in "Mary Maudlin Hall," Oxford, under the presidency of Oboney (Aubigny). Lady Rivers is Chancellor, the Countesses of Derby and Essex are High Constable and High Chamberlain respectively, and "Moll Cutpurse" is Sergeant-at-Arms. The same idea was repeated in similar satires at later dates. The earliest illustrated publications referring to current news were neither more nor less than impudent catchpennies describing natural catastrophes and murders of peculiar atrocity. Floods, strange accidents, monstrous births, and dreadful deaths exercised the faith of their purchasers. Far as we have advanced in illustrated journalism, the hideous and vulgar broadsides of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries are, with startling fidelity, still represented in low social levels of our own time, much as the "ballad-singer's joy" is even now published in the purlieus of St. Giles's exactly as it issued two hundred years ago from the Old Bailey and Stonecutter Street. The prototypes of modern illustrated journals did not always resemble the miserable and clumsy wood engravings of which this book contains numerous capital facsimiles chosen with excellent judgment. By far the most important is a large print (B. M. Satirical Print No. 41) which was, according to its publication line, "invented by Samuell Ward preacher of Norwich," and issued with the dedicatory title "To God, In memorie of his double deliverance from y<sup>e</sup> invincible Navie and y<sup>e</sup> unmatched powder Treason." S. Ward, a preacher of Ipswich, was the author of many sermons, and an eminent divine in his district. He published or invented this print in 1605, and it contained such bitter satire on the Spanish party at home and the Spaniard abroad that Gondomar remonstrated vigorously, declaring that it was calculated to increase, if not to create anew, the old feeling against his countrymen. His complaint was addressed to the Lords of the Privy Council. Ward was brought to London, examined, and remitted to the custody of the messenger; he then petitioned the council and afterwards the king, alleging his innocence; he was ultimately released, but at a later date he was persecuted by Bishop Wren and Archbishop Laud. His print was copied and republished many times down to the present century. Nobody suffered more from illustrated lampoons than Laud; in illustration of this Mr. Jackson has given a numerous group of cuts, and devoted to their explanation many careful and succinctly written pages.

This richly illustrated book may be cordially recommended to the general reader anxious to secure clear information about one of the most curious subjects connected with the press. The cuts are excellent facsimiles of originals which cannot but be of incalculable value whenever the history of opinion is written with the advantage

of comprehensive and copious knowledge of the ever-shifting currents of popular impressions and beliefs. The book, although it is somewhat loosely put together—this may be due to attempts to suit the old text to the new title—is crammed with anecdotes and quaint contemporary satire, and comments of the most curious kind. The cuts are generally capital. The history of modern illustrated journalism is well told and freely illustrated in this volume, which is extended to our own time, and relates with spirit and completeness the history, aims, and troubles of the *Illustrated London News* and similar publications. It is a great pity that the work is not supplied with an index.

*Les Emblèmes d'Alciat.* Par G. Duplessis. (Paris, Librairie de L'Art.)—The learned Conservateur of the Department of Prints in the Bibliothèque Nationale has, with rare patience, compiled a bibliography of the emblems of Alciat. He has described not fewer than 126 editions of this wonderful illustration of the dulness and stupidity of the sixteenth century, and yet, notwithstanding all his pains and his opportunities as Conservateur of one of the best art libraries in the world, he is compelled to say of his labours, "Pour ce travail, que nous n'osons par nous flatter d'avoir rendu complet, nous avons fait appel à toutes les grandes collections." To this follows a generous testimony to the care expended by Mr. Henry Green on the 'Emblems' in an elaborate work published by Mr. Trübner for the Holbein Society, which we reviewed at length in 1873, soon after it was published. To "la partie bibliographique" of this publication M. Duplessis pays a compliment not less honourable to himself than to Mr. Henry Green, and, it must be admitted, one which is very rarely paid by a French *savant* to an English student. A large part of M. Duplessis's interest in the emblems of Alciat is due to their importance in the history of early wood engraving. He deals with the hypotheses—which are much too complex and narrow of application to enter upon in default of facsimiles of prints and signatures—advanced by various commentators and critics who have discussed the shares to be attributed in the work to Woeiriot and others, to say nothing of the relations of Jobst Amman and Virgil Solis and this work of Alciat. The enumeration of editions of this publication begins with the 'Emblema' of Henri Steyner, published at "Augusta Vindelicorum" in 1531. This is really the first edition. There is another, bearing the same date and publication line, which differs from it essentially. The second is the better, and came from the press on the 6th of April, whereas its forerunner had appeared on February 28th previous, with as many typographical errors as filled thirteen lines at the end of the volume. The second and revised edition bears the mark of Steyner, H and S combined, with a cross, at the end of the book. M. Duplessis has been exercised by the attribution of the cuts of these editions to Hans Burgmaier by a well-known writer on art—a notion which we must needs agree with our author in describing as a "grande imprudence." There are other editions or versions published by Steyner, and dated 1532, 1533, and 1534, besides another dated in the last-named year without the signature of Steyner. The haste of the first publication and its numerous typographical errors, to say nothing of the number of issues of the work from the same city and within a very short time, show the demand for it. The editions of C. Wechel, Jacques Moderne, Aldus, Jean de Tournes, Jérôme de Marnef, Rouille and Bonhomme, C. Plantin, G. Corvin, J. Richer, and P. Tozzi, besides the éditions diverses, of various dates and places, are all enumerated in

this very important contribution to xylographic and emblem lore of the sixteenth century.

#### THE "RESTORATION" OF WESTMINSTER HALL.

The "Select Committee on Westminster Hall (Restoration)," as it is officially called, has been the means of bringing the old and the new schools of the Gothic revival into more direct collision than they have ever been before. It will be remembered that when the courts of law were moved from Westminster to the Strand the old court houses were hastily pulled down. It was evidently thought that the west side of Westminster Hall, when exposed by the demolition, would be found to be an important architectural front in good condition, and there was talk of laying out a garden in front of it before the next meeting of Parliament. It turned out, however, as most men would have expected, that the side of the Hall was a mere ruin, full of antiquarian interest, but certainly without any pretension to architectural grandeur now, whilst some have contended, with very good reason, that it was not intended to have any even at the first.

The official mind naturally thought "restoration" the proper remedy, and the then First Commissioner of Works called in Mr. J. L. Pearson. Assuming "restoration" to be expedient, the selection was good, and the objections which have been raised to Mr. Pearson's doings must not be taken as reflections upon himself, but upon the system which he happens in this case to represent. He prepared a design as he was instructed, and last summer, just at the end of the session, Parliament was asked to grant money for its execution. The practical defects of the scheme were, however, so forcibly pointed out to the House of Commons that it was thought best to withdraw the application, and the matter was referred to a Select Committee.

This committee has, as was said just now, become the battle-field between the old and still dominant, though now waning, school and the new and rising one. All the old leaders are dead except Mr. Butterfield, who has taken no part in the contest. But the second rank have shown fight, and Mr. Pearson has had the support of Mr. Ewan Christian, Mr. Blomfield, Mr. J. O. Scott, Mr. James Brooks, and Mr. Waterhouse. On the other side, Mr. William Morris, Mr. J. J. Stevenson, Mr. Somers Clarke, and Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite have set forth very distinctly the doctrines of the school which they represent.

The matter in dispute has been partly antiquarian and partly architectural, and the difference of the contending parties has been equally great in each aspect. The restorationists, as usual, advocate the "putting back of the building into its original condition"; but, except Mr. Pearson, none of them seems to have taken the trouble to inquire what is the history of the site. One point much discussed has been whether the flank of the Hall was ever an architectural composition, intended to be seen as a whole; and Mr. Christian's way of treating it may be taken as characteristic of his party. He said in effect that Mr. Pearson's design is a beautiful "restoration"—so beautiful that it is quite impossible to believe that such a design could ever have been intended to be hidden from view; and that, therefore, there could not have been buildings to the west of the Hall, at least till after the time of Richard II. To this the other side have replied that as a matter of fact there were such buildings, and plenty of them, some much older than Richard's time, and that this is fully proved by the report with which Mr. Pearson accompanies his designs.

But the restorationists have their own way of looking at facts and at history. They value an old building chiefly for the evidence it affords for its "restoration"; and that process consists of making it new to a design more or less like the old, but altered and added to as evidence

fails or present use requires, all alterations and additions being made up of parts either copied from original ones, or designed in "strict accordance with the style of the period." Thus Mr. Pearson has produced three or four alternative designs, all equally "restorations." Full-sized models of two of them are now set up on the site, and the upper parts of them may be seen above the hoarding.

The newer school contend that such treatment of an ancient monument is no better than destroying it, and that it not only disfigures the true history, if any is permitted to remain, but mixes it up with false history, which, if the forgery is as complete as it is intended to be, makes the whole worse than a blank. They would have the real old history preserved so far as is consistent with modern requirements, and would make its preservation one of the requirements in any new work which may need to be done. But all such work should, they say, be the honest meeting of our own wants, done in the manner which seems best to us in this nineteenth century, and should thus carry on the true history instead of pretending to be an old one, which it is not.

Fires, rebuildings, and "restorations" have left nothing visible of the old Palace of Westminster except the lower part of the west wall of the Hall lately exposed, and this gives it a value higher than what might have been claimed for it on its own account only, though that is considerable. Mr. Pearson's proposals, as we pointed out when they were first made, conceal or destroy, or make certain the destruction of the old work. And those who think it worth preserving have proposed to protect it from the weather, and leave it un—"restored" and unaltered, except so far as is necessary for the security of the building. The scorn with which the restorationists have received the suggestion of a protecting screen not of the "period" is both characteristic and amusing.

On architectural and practical grounds the two schools are equally opposed. To the one, "restoration" is its own end. The other contends that if new work is to be done it must be for some definite use, and that public money ought not to be wasted on a mere fancy, which, useless in itself, may interfere with the proper use of the now vacant ground round the Houses of Parliament when the time comes, as come it must, for it to be built over. The new school look to this as necessary to the architectural completion of the Palace. The old ones are for making the "restoration" the permanent front of the Hall, and leaving the whole group to appear for ever standing in a hole, as it does now.

The committee has yet to report, and, considering its material, it will probably take what is still considered the "safe" side, and advise "restoration." But whatever the report, the evidence is important, and we hope that members will take the trouble to look into it when Parliament is again asked for money to pay for this costly toy. A warning, too, should be given about the models to which we referred above. They are so cleverly done that the unwary are likely to be trapped into mistaking admiration of them for admiration of the design which they represent.

#### NOTES FROM ATHENS.

March 20, 1885.

It was my good fortune to visit Laurium the other day, when an ancient mine was hit upon at Souressa, about three miles distant up the mountains. This ancient working for lead and silver ore has remained unknown for some two thousand years, until the workmen of the French company happened in digging to come upon a horizontal zigzag channel, from forty to fifty centimètres square, following up which they came to a large chamber, a few yards distant in the mountain, which was evidently a centre of former operations. No author, ancient or modern, appears to have mentioned such a form of gallery.

The engineer who acted as my guide gave it as his opinion that the peculiar, very regular zigzag form of the cutting was to enable the workman better to place his body in order to have strength to ply his tools. So narrow was the passage cut in the very hard calcareous rock that the slave would be able to creep along only with the greatest difficulty by drawing up first one limb and then another. The marks of the small pick or chisel were as fresh as if cut yesterday. The chamber into which this gallery led, and into which I descended, had evidently been a spot rich in ore, of which it had been stripped through various openings cut in the sides of the cave and leading to the exterior. These galleries were somewhat larger, often one mètre wide by thirty centimètres high, but some so narrow, only thirty centimètres square, that it is difficult to conceive how the ore was carried out. No trace of buckets or baskets having been found in any of these ancient mines (though a petrified mat of reeds was found in one at Camarissa, near here, spread out as for a couch at night), it can only be conjectured that boys were employed to carry or draw out the ore in sacks or bags fastened round their necks or waists. Plutarch mentions somewhere the goatskins or pockets filled with metal ore carried on the backs of slaves in Egypt—*Πυροφόρος, Θυλαχοφόρος*—just as goatskins are commonly used now in Greece for carrying wine from place to place. The chamber itself into which all these galleries led was twenty mètres long by fifteen wide, while its present height is ten mètres. Much of the softer iron strata had fallen in, however, from the roof, and an excavation two mètres deep showed that the floor was not yet reached. In these underground caverns it is supposed the slaves assembled to separate the finer sorts of ore, brought up to them from the small shafts going down therefrom in all directions, so that only the most profitable specimens would have to be carried out. It must be observed that Boeckh, in his 'Public Economy of Athens,' is quite wrong in saying the ancient mining shafts at Laurium were round. Only one or two circular pits have been found, all the rest are square. They were usually either perpendicular or inclined, being sunk at intervals from the surface in order to strike the metalliferous vein. The latter was so hard that not a bit more was excavated than was necessary to extract the ore. I am told by an eye-witness that irregular zigzag horizontal galleries, of very narrow compass, are used at the present day in the coal mines of China, where the labourers are actually content to bring out the coal in their hands, so that a very small heap (it is used only for household purposes) is the result of one day's labour. This fact must throw light on the narrow openings seen all about Laurium, which make such a melancholy impression on the traveller who remembers what Xenophon and Strabo say as to the numbers of slaves who lost their lives by such hard and unnatural toil. The narrow and zigzag form of the Chinese coal galleries is, no doubt, adopted to secure greater strength, and to dispense with artificial supports. When the ancient Greeks required supports in their excavations they left pillars of the hard rock itself standing, though they used great quantities of wood, which they placed cross-wise, or like the rungs of a ladder, in the sides of the vertical shafts to facilitate the ascent. The holes to receive these beams are still visible.

The Greek gentleman, Karagranos, to whom we owe the most successful excavations at the Oracle of Dodona, has now, for the first time, opened his wonderful collection of antiquities in this city to the public every Wednesday morning. Besides the objects described in his own handsome quarto, he has exhibited the remains of a beautiful and highly ornamental bronze chariot belonging to Diocletian, and discovered amongst the ruins of his palace at Nicomedia.

Now the recently found statue described by me in the *Athenæum* of February 21st has been

cleaned and properly presented, it is evident, from the shape of the pointed ears, from the tail, and from the *ἀσκός*, or leather wine bottle (not a torch), held by the left hand upon the shoulder, that it represents a satyr, and has been a caryatid in some theatre or private house. It has been declared by competent authority to belong to the second century before Christ, and to be in very good style and worthy of illustration.

JOSEPH HIRST.

#### SALE.

THE under-mentioned pictures were sold in Paris on the 14th inst.: Barye, 'Tigre au bord d'une Source,' 4,800 fr. Corot, 'Entrée de Village,' 3,600 fr.; 'Le Passeur,' 4,000 fr.; 'Vue d'Amsterdam,' 2,820 fr.; 'La Femme au Tigre,' 14,000 fr. Daubigny, 'Effet du Matin,' 1,650 fr.; 'Bords de l'Oise,' 15,000 fr. Diaz, 'La Mare,' 9,800 fr.; 'Mère et Enfants,' 3,700 fr. Madou, 'Les Mauvais Joueurs,' 7,800 fr. Roybet, 'Payage et Moulins,' 5,200 fr. Ad. Schreyer, 'Attelage Valaque,' 10,000 fr.

#### Fine-Art Gossip.

MR. HOOK has nearly finished four pictures, three, if not more, of which will probably be sent to the Academy. The subject of the most important is novel, that is to say, its effect and motive are unprecedented in the practice of the artist. According to his wont, he has borrowed from Shakespeare ('Richard III.,' V. iii.) the title "The Weary Sun hath made a Golden Set." The view is taken from Sennen Cove, looking westwards along the shore to the Land's End, which, with the Longships Rocks, appears in the distance, while the horizon, where a line of white light burns intensely, extends far beyond the islets and apparently rises much above them. The weather is quite calm, the season autumn, the atmosphere charged with vapour, which hides nothing, but softens every tone and tint; the time is about an hour before night, when all labour has ceased and the sun is going to rest. In keeping with this the picture presents a subtly graded harmony of tone and colour in low keys throughout, except where on the sea a tract of the most brilliant lustre reflects the sunlight which a semi-diamond-shaped veil of clouds partly obscures from us. The veil is variously tinged with old gold, grey, purple, and orange, and is shot with ash and silver, and, being undefined in form and attenuated in substance, casts no decided shadows. In the centre of the veil the disc of the sun is seen, but—the truth of nature being thus indicated with exquisite skill—only a flaming halo retains to the eye the utmost brightness, while the disc itself is far less radiant. From the sun thus subdued in its own lustre four vast fan-like rays spread above to the zenith, where they are lost, and down to the sea, where they are reflected in the glorious tract of light. An orange-coloured bank of vapours stretches along the horizon, where its lower edge touches the gleaming line of water, which seems to heave and change with the falling waves, so that the radiance varies infinitely. Curving from the foreground, the outline of the little bay is marked by yellow sand and blue edges of the sea. Above these rise the dark grey granite cliffs of Sennen. Not billows, but long and low ridges of the ocean, follow each other, at wide intervals, one by one in the offing; they rise slowly, slowly creep landward, and, with seeming deliberation, turn, and fall slowly on the sands, pouring white foam on the half-bare rocks. Apart from its restful sentiment, the peculiarities of the picture are the broad effect of the shadowless landscape, the prevalent low tones, and local colours attenuated by the glory of the sky. Another picture was painted for the Duke of Westminster, and tells a different tale of nature from the last. We look on a nook of the low Cornish coast in full, clear sunlight, just when the rising tide begins to flow in the hollows of those

ochreous rocks at the sea's edge which are just emerging from the sands. The pools show where the currents lie, and the darkness of the weeds tells how deep the waters are when the tide is high. A summer gale urges the sea faster and faster on the land, dashes its billows on masses of granite in the mid-distance, and defines the margin of the shore in foam. Thus impelled, seething billows, charged with myriads of air-bubbles and wildly breaking, fill the nook rapidly and change the scene. Just where the brown rocks meet the sky, a group of sheeny black and purple cormorants, with bulging necks and drooping wings, cluster lazily, and, being too much gorged to heed the coming flood, justify the title of the picture, which is "After Dinner Rest a While." The movement and local colouring of this design are energetic. Full of light and remarkably varied in tone, it is in every respect a contrast to the last-named picture.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS will shortly sell a very interesting collection of armour, weapons, and other antiquities, including costumes and artistic apparatus, the property of the late Mr. Houston. The noteworthy pieces of armour are a demi-suit of allecto armour, complete, being a helmet and a breastplate of very fine form, *temp. Henry VIII.*; a fine globular breastplate of the oldest type, early fifteenth century; a fluted or Maximilian breastplate, back-piece, gorget, and sleeves, *temp. Henry VII.*; a splint breastplate and cuisses, with fleur-de-lis and Maltese Cross decorations, of very picturesque character, second half of the sixteenth century; an engraved and gilded morion, with the original quilted velvet lining, in which respect it is a very rare example, *temp. Philip and Mary*; an engraved breastplate and backplate, *temp. Elizabeth*, of much finish and great beauty; a pair of beautifully fluted gauntlets of a fine shape, *temp. Henry VII.*; an embossed helmet of the burgonet shape, sixteenth century; a very rare engraved men-tière, *temp. Elizabeth*; a curious salade with an open top, Hungarian, c. 1500; an armet, with a visor and beaver, of peculiarly good form, *temp. Elizabeth*; a full-sized and long heavy mail hauberk, with its helmet, in perfect condition (this is one of the rarest articles of the kind); a beautifully engraved trophy shield, Italian (or Spanish) of the sixteenth century. The weapons comprise an extremely rare and good anelace, fifteenth century; a rapier, with an extremely long blade, English, late sixteenth century; a fine inlaid German petronel, sixteenth century; a main-gauche, with a curious pierced ornament inside the guard, sixteenth century; a carved ivory-hilted couteau de chasse; and a wheel-lock musket, *temp. Elizabeth*, inlaid with ivory, including the queen's portrait engraved on an ivory plaque.

THE Ansiedi Madonna, by Raphael, has been, thanks to the energy and care of Sir F. Burton, very promptly placed before the public in the National Gallery. For the present it occupies a screen in Room XIV. Its presence raises the character of the whole collection, high as that already was. Having on the 6th of last September (*Athenæum* No. 2967, p. 310) fully described, criticized, and related the history of this supreme masterpiece, we need not now write of it at length. Van Dyck's portrait of Charles I. is hung in Room XII., facing the entrance from Room XVI., an admirable position in every respect. To place it so compelled considerable changes, the nature of which we have already mentioned, in the hanging of the Low Country pictures.

At No. 157, New Bond Street may now be seen Herr Hans Makart's large picture of 'Summer,' and other works by foreign artists.

The private view of the Thirty-second Annual Exhibition of Pictures by Artists of the Continental Schools is appointed for to-day (Saturday). The gallery will be opened to the public

on Monday next. Mr. McLean opens his gallery on the same days.

MR. FRANK MURRAY, of Derby, has in preparation a volume of 'Peak Scenery,' from the original copper-plates engraved by W. B. and G. Cooke, after drawings by Sir Francis L. Chantrey. This is the finest series of illustrations of the renowned scenery of the Peak district in existence, and it is now issued for the first time since its original appearance in 1818 in illustration of Rhodes's 'Peak Scenery.'

M. ROTHSCHILD's forthcoming work on Italian painting and sculpture is ready for publication and will be issued next month. It will contain illustrations of the masters of the various schools, the text being by well-known Italian and French art critics.

## MUSIC

### THE WEEK.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—The Bach Bicentenary Performance.  
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—'The Rose of Sharon.' London Musical Society.

THE long-talked-of performance of Bach's great Mass in B minor was given at the Albert Hall last Saturday afternoon, on the two hundredth anniversary of the composer's birth. The chorus consisted of the members of the Bach Choir, largely reinforced by contingents from other sources, and, to suit the requirements of the hall, a proportionately large orchestra was engaged, the vocal and instrumental performers together amounting to about six hundred. Bach's complex polyphonic writing is less suited than Handel's simpler music to a large body of voices and instruments; but it is only fair to say that the performance last Saturday was so accurate that the most elaborate passages sounded surprisingly clear. The work had evidently been most carefully rehearsed, and both the chorus and the conductor, Mr. Otto Goldschmidt, deserve warm congratulations on the success that attended their efforts. Another feature of interest was to be found in the fact that Bach's original parts for oboi d'amore and trumpets were announced to be played as he wrote them. The oboe d'amore is an obsolete instrument, the pitch of which was a minor third lower than that of the ordinary oboe. Instruments had been made specially for this performance; the tone was something between that of the oboe and that of the cor Anglais. The effect was entirely satisfactory, and far preferable to that of the clarinet, which at previous performances has been substituted for it. In order to do justice to Bach's extremely high trumpet parts, Herr Kosleck, of Berlin, was specially engaged. This gentleman plays upon a trumpet of a different pattern from that generally used, the tube being straight throughout. His certainty of intonation and execution in the many difficult solo passages allotted to his instrument was marvellous, and the effect of the high notes of the trumpet, often dominating the entire orchestra, was exceedingly fine. Herr Kosleck was excellently supported in the other trumpet parts by Messrs. Morrow and Solomon; and it may be safely said that from this point of view Bach's work was heard on Saturday for the first time.

Unfortunately there is a reverse side to the picture; and honesty compels us to add that, side by side with the merits we have adverted to, there were blemishes in the

performance so serious as to be little short of discreditable. Will it be believed that at a bicentenary performance of Bach's greatest work many of the movements were ruthlessly cut? The defence will, of course, be that a large number of Bach's airs are very long and contain a great deal of repetition. This is undoubtedly true; but we maintain that it is no excuse whatever on such an occasion. It is the principle underlying the procedure which is wrong. Nobody has a right to mutilate a work of art by altering its form; it would be just as lawful for an art critic who objected to a picture as being too large to adapt it to his own taste by cutting a strip off one of the sides. In both cases the balance of the whole is destroyed. But at the performance at the Albert Hall even worse things, if possible, than this were done. The bass air "Quoniam tu solus" contains an accompaniment for one horn and two bassoons. On Saturday the bassoon parts were doubled, each being played by two instruments; thus the balance of tone was entirely destroyed, and the horn part, the most important of all, could scarcely be heard. It is inconceivable how Mr. Goldschmidt could do anything so radically inartistic. Furthermore, though a special feature was made of the playing of Bach's trumpet parts "as he wrote them," trumpets were introduced in the first movement of the "Credo" where the composer has not written them at all; and lastly, Bach's directions as to the use of the organ were in more than one instance deliberately violated. In several places where the figures under the bass line show that the organ is to be used, the instrument was silent, and the voice was accompanied by nothing but the basses with a two-part harmony, which most certainly was very far from Bach's intentions. Such grave errors of judgment as these call for censure; and it is with great regret that we are obliged to record our conviction that from this point of view the performance intended to do honour to Bach proved, unfortunately, to be a caricature, conferring no credit on those who were responsible for the arrangements. It is only needful to add that the soloists were Miss Anna Williams, Madame Patey, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Kempton, the last named replacing Signor Foli, who was indisposed.

It is not surprising that the publishers of Mr. Mackenzie's oratorio 'The Rose of Sharon' should have felt dissatisfied with the treatment the work received at the hands of our leading metropolitan choral societies, and so determined to give a performance under their own direction. That such action was necessary is a grave reflection on those who ought to have been proud to take the initiative and to labour without stint in the production of the masterpiece of a distinguished composer. But enough has been said on that unpleasant point, and it is satisfactory to be able to record that 'The Rose of Sharon' has at last received an adequate rendering, with a result that leaves no manner of doubt as to the effect of the music on a London audience. In order to render the conditions as favourable as possible, Madame Albani was engaged to interpret the leading part, the composer came from Italy to conduct the performance,

and a chorus selected from the principal societies east and west underwent a thorough preparation, first at the hands of Mr. Eaton Fanning, and afterwards from the composer himself. A finer body of voices has never been heard in St. James's Hall, and the effect of many of the numbers was highly impressive. In fact, the only shortcoming was in the procession scene, the opening of the chorus "Arise, O Lord," being absolutely missed. It is said that the disaster was due in the first instance to a false entry of one of the wind instruments, and that the conductor in endeavouring to correct this was, of course, unable to give the cue to the choir in his usually clear and distinct manner. As might have been anticipated, the part of the Sulamite was exquisitely interpreted by Madame Albani. The mingled dramatic energy and tenderness of the music suit her to a nicety, and the Canadian *prima donna* has never been heard to so much advantage save as the exponent of Wagner's heroines. Madame Patey appeared to be indisposed, and was quite unable to render herself justice; but both Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Santley were in excellent voice, and consequently the music allotted to each was rendered to perfection. As has been said, the work made a lively impression on the audience. Contrary to precedent even at performances of the highest class, the crowded assemblage scarcely underwent any diminution until the close, when the composer was recalled and warmly cheered. It is understood that the performance is to be repeated at as early a date as circumstances will permit.

The London Musical Society, which since its foundation has done much for the cause of music in the metropolis, gave its first concert for the present season at St. James's Hall on Wednesday evening. The programme was of even more than the usual interest, as it consisted entirely of works which had not been previously heard in London. The concert opened with three Legenden for orchestra alone, composed by Dvorák. There are in all ten of these pieces, but the length of the programme forbade the inclusion of the whole series. The numbers selected, if they can scarcely be said to add to the reputation of the composer, are at all events not unworthy of him. They are short movements, in all of which the national characteristics so frequently to be found in Dvorák's music are very prominent, while the orchestral colouring is full of charm. Of the three pieces performed, the second, a Molto Moderato in G major and minor, impressed us most upon a first hearing. The Legenden were followed by Schumann's ballad for soli, chorus, and orchestra, 'The Minstrel's Curse' ('Des Sängers Fluch'), Op. 139. This work, written in 1852, when its composer's powers had already begun to decline, will not take rank by the side of the masterpieces he has left behind in the 'Paradise and the Peri' and 'Manfred.' The form is not happily chosen. In its original shape the poem by Uhland is narrative, but as treated by Schumann it is partly narrative and partly dramatic, and the endeavour to fuse the two styles into a homogeneous whole has not been successful. Much of the music also seems laboured, though isolated passages of great beauty are to be found. The

second part of the concert was musically more interesting than the first, as it brought to a first hearing in this country Rheinberger's cantata 'Christoforus.' Herr Josef Rheinberger has hitherto been known in England chiefly, if not entirely, as a composer of instrumental music; the present work will certainly enhance his fame. It is from first to last charming, being full of fresh and original melody, admirably constructed, and well laid out both for voices and instruments. The composer is equally free from the two besetting sins of so many contemporary writers, dryness and diffuseness. Where all is good it is not easy to single out any numbers for special praise; but among the most striking parts of the work may be counted the trio "Starlight on high," the charming soprano solo "Who is the sovereign lord of the heart?" with the choral refrain "Love, mighty Love!" the spirited chorus "Satan a-hunting is gone!" the hermit's song "Lord of heaven and all creation," the beautiful scene "Bear over," and the final chorus. The whole work, without displaying the highest order of genius, is one of real value, and will, we believe, be found a most useful addition to the *répertoire* of our choral societies, especially as it presents no excessive difficulty either to singers or players. Of the performance at this concert it is possible to speak only in terms of qualified praise. The chorus was excellent, singing with more spirit than on any previous occasion in our recollection; but the soloists left much to desire, producing the impression that they were in general but very imperfectly acquainted with the music they had to sing; while the orchestra was coarse, spiritless, and slovenly, a complete break-down in one place being the result of a misunderstanding between Mr. Barnby and his band. If the London Musical Society wishes to preserve the position it has deservedly attained, the necessary steps must be taken by the committee to secure far better performances in future than that given on Wednesday evening.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Charles Halle's Musical Library.* (Forsyth Brothers.)—Mr. Halle's 'Practical Pianoforte School' has been for some time before the public, and is well known as a useful collection of pieces mostly selected from the classics. The present work is described as an appendix to the previous publication; and the numbers before us consist of twelve pieces belonging to Section A (Elementary), and thirty of Section B (Easy). Many teachers of the piano experience a difficulty in finding music which is not too exacting for young players, and which is, at the same time, good enough to develop their taste in the right direction, and interesting enough to sustain their attention. In all these respects the present collection may be warmly recommended. Many of the pieces chosen are, of course, old favourites; but Mr. Halle has included some numbers which are quite new to us. Among these we may name some very pleasing little pieces by H. Enckhausen, a composer who flourished in the first half of the present century, and who, like the late Carl Czerny, enjoyed considerable reputation as a writer of "teaching pieces." His talent is shown in a favourable light by the Sonatina in c major and the Rondino in c, both of which are very melodious, and instructive as practice. Among other composers represented in the series are Bertini, Czerny, Steibelt, Dussek, Pleyel, Kuhlau, and of more modern writers

Hiller and Reinecke; and we may add that a better selection of works could hardly be desired. The careful fingering by the editor and the explanations of the performance of the various ornaments (shakes, turns, &c.) add to the value of the edition, which we can heartily recommend to teachers.

*Second Raff Album: Nine Pianoforte Pieces.* Edited by A. Schloesser. (Enoch & Sons.)—Of modern composers the late Joachim Raff was probably one of the most prolific, if the quality as well as the quantity of his work be taken into account. That he is occasionally commonplace and even dry is not a matter for much surprise; for even Mozart, a far greater original genius than Raff, has left behind him many works which certainly add nothing to his reputation; and Raff wrote so incessantly, apparently whether feeling inspired or not, that it would be unreasonable under such conditions to expect the same high level of excellence to be attained throughout. Yet it is very rare to meet with a composition from his pen which is absolutely without points of interest. Not infrequently he takes an unpromising-looking theme and by his harmonic and contrapuntal skill develops a really good piece of music from it; at others he interests by his brilliant passages for the pianist; while, when in his best mood, his melodies are no less charming than the skill with which he sets them off to the best advantage. These remarks have been suggested by an examination of the nine pieces in the album before us. The Prélude (No. 1) and the Preghiera (No. 2) are excellent examples of their composer's style; the Valse (No. 3) illustrates what we have said as to a commonplace subject being rendered interesting by its treatment; the Mazurka (No. 4) is effective, but it suffers from Raff's besetting sin, prolixity; the Romance from Op. 56 is hardly one of the best pieces in the collection; but the four numbers which complete the volume, all of which are taken from Op. 75, are charming, and are alone worth the price of the entire book. Most of the pieces are more or less difficult; but good amateurs will find them within their means, and will be repaid for the trouble taken in studying them.

*Trio in c minor, for Piano, Violin, and Violoncello,* by Bradbury Turner, Mus.Bac. (Augener & Co.), is a work which does more credit to the composer's knowledge than to his inventive powers. The trio, which is in three movements, is excellent in its clearness of form, but there is no great freshness or interest in the ideas; for example, the commencement of the second subject of the first movement recalls, in the harmonic progression as well as in the melody, the theme of the slow movement of Beethoven's Sonata in c minor for piano and violin. It is, however, only fair to Mr. Turner to add that we have found nothing else in the trio which can be called a reminiscence. The *andante* is superior to the first movement; the commencement is very good, though the middle portion is decidedly weaker, the episode in f minor being commonplace. In the selection of the rondo form for his *finale* Mr. Turner has shown sound judgment, as variety is thus given to the work.

*The St. George's Book of Six Popular Songs* by Hatton and Weiss (Weekes & Co.) is a remarkably good shillingsworth. It contains three excellent songs by the veteran J. L. Hatton, together with three by the late W. H. Weiss, beautifully printed, and enclosed in a cover the design of which is interesting, as we are informed it is copied from a very rare piece of antique Damascus pottery. The songs by Hatton are all in the composer's best manner, and any one of them is alone worth the price charged for the whole book.

*Nehemiah: an Oratorio in Vocal Score.* The Text selected and compiled from the Scriptures and in part written by A. J. Foxwell. The Music composed by Josiah Booth. (Curwen & Sons.)—Under ordinary circumstances one would hardly dismiss a new oratorio with a few

passing words; but Mr. Booth's composition differs altogether in form, and presumably in the object for which it was written, from other works bearing a similar name. From internal evidence we believe that it is intended for singers of the most moderate attainments. It contains in all forty numbers; but, with the exception of the chorus which ends the second part, hardly any of the movements are developed to any great length, and the highest forms of art are not even attempted. It would, therefore, be an injustice to the composer to judge his work by the same standard which we should apply to an oratorio by Mendelssohn or Spohr. Looking at it from a lower standpoint, we find much in it to commend. Mr. Booth has a pleasant flow of natural melody, and writes effectively though simply. With the class of singers for whom the music is apparently designed we have little hesitation in predicting for 'Nehemiah' considerable popularity.

## Musical Gossip.

THE Bach bicentenary festival was observed at the Popular Concert last Saturday, the major part of the programme being formed of the master's works. The selection included the Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue for pianoforte; the Prelude and Fugue in g minor for violin alone; the Sonata in E for piano and violin, for the first time; and songs. The executants were Mdlle. Kleeberg, Herr Joachim, and Miss Carlotta Elliot. Mendelssohn's Quartet in e flat, Op. 44, No. 3, and Marcello's Violoncello Sonata in f, played by Herr Hausmann, were included in the programme. An exceptionally fine performance of Brahms's Sextet in b flat, Op. 18, was given on Monday, the other concerted works being Mozart's Sonata for Piano and Violin in a, and Beethoven's String Trio in c minor, Op. 9, No. 3. Mdlle. Kleeberg played some minor pieces by Schubert and Mendelssohn in a highly finished manner, and Mr. Maas was the vocalist. The season will end on Monday next.

It was unfortunate that the Crystal Palace Concert last Saturday clashed with the Bach celebration at the Albert Hall, as it renders it impossible to do more than record the programme of the very interesting historical concert given at Sydenham. It included a sonata for double orchestra by Giovanni Gabrieli, a song by Purcell, the "Rigaudon" from Rameau's 'Dardanus,' Bach's Suite in b, two airs from Handel's 'Ode for St. Cecilia's Day,' the opening movement of Haydn's symphony 'Le Midi,' the song "In diesen hei'gen Hallen" from Mozart's 'Zauberflöte,' the *allegretto*, and *finale* from Beethoven's Symphony in f, and two extracts from Wagner's 'Die Walküre.'

MR. A. VICTOR BENHAM gave his second pianoforte recital at the Steinway Hall last Tuesday afternoon, when among other works he performed Beethoven's great Sonata in b flat, Op. 106.

THE Kensington Orchestral and Choral Society gave a concert last night under the direction of Mr. W. Buels, when the programme consisted of the first and second parts of the 'Creation' and Spohr's "God, thou art great."

MR. ISIDORE DE LARA and M. Henri Logé gave their second Soirée Artistique at the Prince's Hall last Tuesday evening.

WE regret to announce the death at Margate, last Tuesday, of Mr. J. W. Davison, for many years musical critic of the *Times*. Mr. Davison was an excellent musician and a brilliant writer upon his art. It was mainly by his advice that Mr. Arthur Chappell in 1859 established the Monday Popular Concerts, for which the analytical programmes were written by Mr. Davison. In 1860 he married the well-known pianist Miss Arabella Goddard.

In the new part, No. 20, of Sir George Grove's 'Dictionary of Music,' which is now ready, there are articles on "Verdi," by Signor G. Mazzucato;

"Variations," by Dr. Hubert Parry; "Tone," by Mr. A. J. Hipkins; "Tonal Fugue," by Mr. W. S. Rockstro; and "Transposition" and "Turn," by Mr. Franklin Taylor.

THE Edinburgh University Musical Society gave last week its eighteenth annual concert under the direction of its president and conductor, Prof. Sir Herbert Oakeley. The choruses and solos, vocal and instrumental, were by students, who were also represented in an orchestra of nearly sixty professionals and amateurs. Most of the choruses were harmonized and orchestrated by the president, whose "Alma Mater" and minuet "in olden style," composed for the students' recent dramatic performance, "The Bachelor of Florence," were well received, the latter encored. The other orchestral numbers were Handel's Overture to "Athaliah" with additional accompaniments, and Sir Frederick Ouseley's to "St. Polycarp," both novelties in Scotland. To-day (28th) the University Musical Society of St. Andrews (Fife) gives its annual concert, conducted by its hon. president, Sir Herbert Oakeley.

We regret to learn that Dr. Hans von Bülow has injured his hand by a fall, and has in consequence been obliged to abandon his concert tour.

A MONUMENT has just been erected in St. Petersburg to the composer Seroff, one of the founders of the modern Russian school.

## DRAMA

### THE WEEK.

COURT.—"The Magistrate," an Original Farce in Three Acts. By A. W. Pinero.

COMEDY.—"Agnes," a Comedy in Two Acts.

In "The Magistrate" Mr. Pinero has solved the problem of being entertaining through three acts of farce without any sacrifice of decency. This desirable result is, perhaps, not obtained without some faint suggestion of impropriety. A certain Hôtel des Princes, at which in the second act his characters are congregated, is something more than it seems, or a visit to it could scarcely offer an irresistible attraction to youth, nor would the memory of its delights survive in the mind of an Indian colonel twenty years of active service. The position, moreover, in which the heroine and her sister place themselves is compromising in appearance, though innocent in intention and in fact. Wholly unimportant are these matters, the only point for the sake of which they are raised being that a spice of wickedness seems all but indispensable to this class of piece. Mr. Pinero is to be congratulated upon his workmanship. Very far from faultless is "The Magistrate," even from the standpoint of farce. It is, however, innocent, as has been said, and profoundly diverting; it is ingenious in construction and witty in dialogue. A piece serving better the purpose for which it is written has not lately been given to the stage. There is, too, a logical completeness about it that is satisfying. It is in the manner in which punishment follows offence almost like a burlesque of Greek tragedy. It is useless and futile to seek the sources of Mr. Pinero's inspiration. As is natural and inevitable in modern dramatic work, obligation to previous pieces can be traced. It is, however, no more than is permissible and defensible; the use of the materials is excellent, and the result is as fresh as it is inspiring. To give the piece a full hold upon the public and to secure it a run proportionate to its merits, the cha-

racter of Popham, a maid-servant, might be excised, the business of the opening scene of the third act might be sharpened, and the conventional nature of the termination might be altered. The amorous disposition of a youth of nineteen, whom his mother causes to pass for fourteen, is an element in the mirthfulness of the whole. An improvement would, however, be effected if the juvenile hero were shown all through anxious for a commission in the army, which had been refused him on account of his youth; and if, in the last scene, instead of giving him a thousand pounds and consenting to his marriage with a music teacher, the stepfather granted his wish, and put him at once in a marching regiment. To hint in any way at the plot of the piece is unnecessary and inexpedient. Enough is said in stating that the consequences of the action of a lady who, upon contracting a second marriage, understates her age are that she is brought as a criminal before her own husband, who is a police magistrate, and is sentenced by him—not exactly in a Brutus-like exercise of justice, but in a state of mental confusion—to imprisonment without the option of a fine. The means by which this state of affairs is brought about are highly comic, and some of the situations obtained are thoroughly diverting. The second act, the action of which passes in an hotel, keeps the audience in a perpetual whirl of amusement. Mr. Pinero might with advantage strike out a few plays upon words which are not only unneeded, but which, in the case of work such as this, are perturbing rather than inspiring.

The company at the Court exerted itself well in a line of work in which it has had little training, and the representation in its main features was excellent. At first, indeed, the acting was so distinctly in the line of comedy some slight difficulty was experienced in regarding the farcical element as other than intrusive. This was, however, conquered after a time. It is conceivable that the character of the police magistrate played by Mr. Cecil might be suited to the effervescent style of Mr. Wyndham. It is doubtful, however, whether the contrast between the aspect of general worthiness of Mr. Cecil and the absurdly equivocal positions in which he is placed is not more effective than any other method of rendering the character would have proved. Mr. Clayton, meanwhile, and Mrs. John Wood were admirably fitted, and Mr. F. Kerr and Mr. Eversfield contributed two clever pieces of acting. For Miss Marion Terry and Miss Norreys there was little to do. That little was, however, well done. In one or two characters the acting was noisy and obtrusive. This, however, will doubtless tone down. The general performance was wanting neither in spirit nor in ensemble.

The two-act drama at the Comedy, the authorship of which has been assigned by some one to Mr. Buchanan, proves to be no more than a tame and colourless version of "L'Ecole des Femmes" of Molière, known to the English playgoer through "The Country Wife" of Wycherley and "The Country Girl" of Garrick. A species of tacit avowal of obligation appears to be conveyed in the name, "Agnes," which is bestowed upon it. As a mere abridgment of a familiar comedy,

which practically it is, it calls for brief notice. It serves, however, to introduce to the English stage Miss Detchon, a young American actress with some attraction of presence and style. In the lighter passages of the play Miss Detchon's archness is of service, and her method in a song of giving an imitation of the trill of a bird was received with much favour. Mr. Cooper was acceptable as the lover. The general representation had, however, little merit.

### Dramatic Gossip.

"THE STORY OF ORESTES" will be given at King's College at the end of May and in the first weeks of June.

MADAME MODJESKA will not, after all, play at the Haymarket the heroine of the Russian drama with which the new management of the Haymarket is to commence the autumn season. To whom the part will be entrusted by Mr. Barrymore, under whose direction the piece will be produced, is as yet not definitely settled.

"IN LIFE OR DEATH," a drama in four acts, dealing with a supposed episode of the Highland rebellion of 1745, was produced on Thursday afternoon at the Olympic. For the original title of the piece the author was compelled at the last moment to substitute that it now bears. "In Life or Death" has one or two good situations, and furnishes opportunity for some competent acting by Miss Pateman and Mr. Glenney. It is, however, sadly overburdened with talk.

"AGAINST THE TIDE" is now announced as the title of the new drama by Mr. G. R. Sims, which is to replace on Saturday next "In the Ranks" at the Adelphi.

LORD LYTTON'S ill-starred play of "Junius" will be withdrawn after this evening's performance, and on Thursday next "The Silver King" will be revived. A new drama by Mr. H. A. Jones is said to be in preparation at the Princess's.

A MISCELLANEOUS performance for the benefit of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was given on Thursday afternoon at Drury Lane. The entertainment consisted principally of scenes from pieces now in course of performance, interspersed with songs and recitations.

At a morning entertainment at the Criterion on Wednesday Mr. C. S. Cheltnam's comedy in three acts, "A Lesson in Love" was given by Mr. Charles Wyndham, Mr. W. Blakely, Sir Charles Young, Lady Monckton, Mrs. Phelps, and Miss Wyndham. The performance was followed by the recitation, by Mrs. Stirling and Mrs. Keeley, of a dramatic epilogue in rhymed verse by Mr. Clement Scott, and by a patriotic song by the same gentleman, set to music by Mr. W. C. Levey, and sung by Mr. C. Hayden Coffin and Dr. Stedman's choir.

MR. F. W. BROUGHTON'S four-act nautical drama "Before the Mast," originally produced at the Olympic, has, with some alterations, been given at the Grand Theatre.

MR. FAIRFAX L. CARTWRIGHT, Third Secretary of Her Majesty's Embassy, Berlin, is the author of a couple of five-act plays, entitled "Lorello" and "The Emperor's Wish," which are at once to appear from the Leadenhall Press.

AT Schwerin, on the 16th inst., at a performance of Schiller's "Braut von Messina" at the Grand Ducal Theatre, an actor named Keller fell dead on the stage after speaking some words of his part towards the close of the third act.

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Editorial Communications should be addressed to "The Editor"—Advertisements and Business Letters to "The Publisher"—at the Office, 20, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

Printed by JOHN C. FRANCIS, Athenæum Press, Took's-court, Chancery-lane, E.C., and Published by the said JOHN C. FRANCIS at No. 20, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

Agents : FOR SCOTLAND, MESSRS. BELL & BRADBURY and MR. JOHN MENZIES, Edinburgh ; FOR IRELAND, MR. JOHN ROBERTSON, Dublin.—Saturday, March 28, 1885.